



CUSTOMS NEWS

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THE COMMISSIONER SPEAKS

As Christmas and New Year quietly descend upon us, 2014 ought to be cherished as a milestone when systematic consolidation took place on new initiatives, strategic focus sharpened along major work streams, timely reforms introduced to improve staff welfare, and prudent adjustments made to enhance human resource management. Measures proven effective through field trials are gradually being turned into formal mechanisms or communication platforms, based on which organizational adaptations could take shape.

On border control, we have matched the vicissitude of organized syndicates and responded to changing modalities with obstinacy. This resounding success is built upon an enlightenment that as smuggling activities will in future be driven by vibrant e-commerce trade and intensified personnel movements, immediate priority should be accorded to cultivating external partnerships and stiffening internal collaboration. Outreach efforts targeted at express couriers and airlines, voluntary submission of advance cargo data by river trade vessels, like-minded cluster of regional counterparts, regular distillation of experience among key operation units, expedited processing of trend analysis and a holistic enforcement approach embracing the whole value chain are just some pragmatic ideas that yielded promising results across the board. The task in hand now is to weave these fabrics into a sustainable vision and promote

it for wider acceptance; the Core Group on Project CADS, the APEC Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights Border Enforcement and the extended cooperation with Australia/New Zealand are showing us the way.

The quest for effective means to eradicate illicit cigarette peddling continues, the latest success is an alliance struck with building management offices to spot shady characters engaged in dubious acts like distributing leaflets or delivering orders, while synchronized boundary interception and downtown raiding is dealing a heavy blow to smugglers and keeping the situation in check. On trade facilitation, the supplemental arrangement sealed with Mainland Customs will further strengthen our status as a prominent wine trading and distribution hub.

Capitalizing on the momentum gained in tackling undesirable marketing practices, the Special Duties Team has recently been upgraded into a major formation in the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau. This is intended not only to deepen interdisciplinary collaboration, but also to speed up transfer of criminal investigation skills to civilian staff. Although unscrupulous traders are turning cautious in their pursuits, I am confident that the revamped setup will come up with notable achievements in the coming year. Setting aside market regulation, a publicity campaign featuring case studies and scenario analysis is



being mapped out to increase consumer awareness and vigilance as the first line of defense.

None of the above could have been accomplished without a progressive and motivated team. Two reviews of significance were completed in 2014 on the pilot project to extend introduction of five-day week in the Intelligence and Investigation Branch as well as on implementation of the Customs Professionalization Scheme respectively. Subject to consultation with relevant stakeholders, the recommendations arising therefrom should ensure better work-life balance and a smoother career development path for young talents. In time, we must also take a close look at the Customs Assistant Employment Scheme so that it could live up to prevailing expectations and circumstances.

I conclude by wishing everyone of you a healthy, happy and fortuitous year ahead!

Clement Cheung
Commissioner

FACILITATION MEASURES ENHANCED FOR WINE ENTERING THE MAINLAND THROUGH HONG KONG



Mr Clement Cheung (left front) exchanges documents with Mr Sun Yibiao (right front) after signing the supplement.

To strengthen Hong Kong's status as a regional wine trading and distribution hub, the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Clement Cheung, and Vice Minister of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China, Mr Sun Yibiao, signed a supplement to the "Cooperation Arrangement on Customs Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong" on September 18, 2014.

The Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang, Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism), Mr Andrew Wong,

Director-General of Trade and Industry, Mr Kenneth Mak, and Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Ms Qiu Hong, witnessed the signing of the supplement at the ceremony.

The newly signed supplement enables wine traders in Hong Kong to enjoy a free choice of their mainland trading partners, thereby providing them with flexibility in running their business in the Mainland. Qualified wine traders can also make use of the web-based system newly developed by the department to submit wine

consignment information to the Mainland Customs in advance. Such wines, when passing through designated Mainland ports, will be able to receive immediate customs clearance.

The facilitation measures have been implemented at designated ports in Shenzhen and Guangzhou, and will be extended in stages to other Mainland ports in the future.

Office of Dutiable Commodities Administration

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

CORE GROUP MEETING ON PROJECT CADS

To unite regional efforts in combating the transnational drug problem, Hong Kong Customs and the Vice-Chair for the World Customs Organization Asia/Pacific (WCO A/P) Region (i.e. the Royal Malaysian Customs Department) co-hosted a Core Group Meeting on Project on Customs Anti-drug Strategy (CADS) from October 23 to 24 in Hong Kong.

The Project CADS is evolved from the “Conceptual Framework for a Dynamic Customs Anti-drug Strategy” introduced by Hong Kong Customs at the WCO fora earlier to raise regional members’ awareness of the global drug problem and to promote the importance of formulating sustainable anti-drug strategy.

The Meeting was attended by 23 representatives from 11 Customs administrations and two WCO A/P regional offices, namely Australia, China, Hong Kong China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Macao China, Malaysia, New Zealand, Thailand and the WCO Regional Intelligence Liaison Office for Asia



The Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr David Fong, and Deputy Director of Customs Narcotic Branch of Royal Malaysian Customs Department, Mr Liah Bin Omar, at the opening of the meeting.

and the Pacific Region (RILO A/P) and the WCO Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P).

The Meeting successfully devised a Concept Note on Project CADS based on the draft prepared by Hong Kong Customs. The Concept Note would serve as a blueprint of the Project CADS. A Regional Anti-drug Expert Group was established

for organizing regional activities and promoting regional initiatives at global level. The Concept Note has subsequently been endorsed by A/P Members at the 24th WCO Asia Pacific Regional Contact Points Meeting held in Malaysia between November 18 and 20, 2014.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation



The Head of Rail and Ferry Command of Hong Kong Customs, Ms Louise Ho, introduces the Passive Millimetre Wave Screening System for detection of contraband concealed beneath passengers’ clothes at the Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Control Points.

APEC WORKSHOP ON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS BORDER ENFORCEMENT HELD IN HONG KONG

Hong Kong Customs and Japan Customs co-hosted the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Workshop on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Border Enforcement between November 11 and 13 in Hong Kong for enhancing collaboration among Customs counterparts.

A total of 42 Customs and IPR officials from 19 member economies, the World Customs Organization and the APEC Intellectual Property Rights Experts Group participated in the Workshop. The three-day

Workshop provided a platform for Customs and IPR enforcement officials to exchange views on strategies to combat IPR crimes across the border.

In addition to government officials, 11 representatives of rights holders were also invited to join the Workshop to strengthen government-business communication and cooperation on IPR enforcement.

At the Workshop, participants shared their experience in IPR border enforcement, covering the latest

trend and challenges, investigation techniques, cooperation among Customs authorities with rights holders, and the practices in raising public awareness. During the panel discussions, participants enthusiastically expressed their views on the way forward to tackle IPR problems and highlighted the importance of Customs-business partnership in the fight against piracy and counterfeiting activities.

The Workshop was well received by all participants and ended successfully. In addition to providing a valuable opportunity to strengthen network connection and collaboration among Customs and various stakeholders on IPR protection, the Workshop also enhanced information exchange for future advancement of international IPR enforcement.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation



Participants exchange views on IPR enforcement strategies in the Workshop.

HONG KONG CUSTOMS TO FURTHER ENHANCE COLLABORATION WITH AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND CUSTOMS

The Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Clement Cheung, led a delegation to attend two high-level bilateral conferences in New Zealand and Australia between November 25 and 27, 2014.

Meeting with officials of the New

Zealand Customs Services (NZCS) in Auckland and the Australian Customs and Border Protection Service (ACBPS) in Canberra, Mr Cheung reached agreements with the two authorities to boost mutual support to effectively tackle transnational crimes, in particular

drug trafficking activities and emerging challenges brought about by e-commerce.

The New Zealand and Australian counterparts both expressed support to the implementation of the Project on Customs Anti-

drug Strategy (Project CADS) and agreed with Hong Kong Customs that concerted effort among enforcement authorities is a panacea for cross-boundary drug crimes.

Apart from enhancing enforcement partnership, the New Zealand and Australian counterparts also attached great importance on trade facilitation with Hong Kong through mutual recognition of the respective supply chain security programmes.

Following fruitful discussions on a variety of issues, Mr Cheung signed a joint communiqué with the Comptroller (Chief Executive) of NZCS, Ms Carolyn Tremain, upon completion of the conference on November 25 to affirm the consensus reached.

In the conference on November 27, Mr Cheung also signed a revised Customs Cooperative Arrangement (CCA) with the Chief Executive Officer of ACBPS, Mr Roman Quaedvlieg, to enhance closer

strategic partnership on various operational fronts between the two Administrations. The revised CCA will replace the existing Arrangement signed in 1992.

During his stay in Australia, Mr Cheung also took the opportunity

to pay a courtesy call on the Deputy Commissioner of the Australian Federal Police, Mr Ramzi Jabbour, to exchange views on the strategic approach towards narcotics enforcement.



Mr Clement Cheung (right) and Mr Roman Quaedvlieg sign the revised CCA.

HONG KONG CUSTOMS HOSTS 24TH WORKING GROUP MEETING OF SSTL PILOT PROJECT

The 24th Working Group Meeting of the EU-China Smart and Secure Trade Lanes Pilot Project (SSTL Pilot Project) was successfully held from October 27 to 30 in Hong Kong. The meeting was hosted by Hong Kong Customs and jointly chaired by the General Administration of China Customs (GACC) and the Taxation and Customs Union

of the European Commission (TAXUD EC). The delegation led by TAXUD EC comprised members from the European Commission and participating Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom (UK). The meeting examined the operations

and benefits of the SSTL Pilot Project, and paved the way for the implementation of Phase 3 of the project.

SSTL at a Glance

Riding on the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade adopted by the World

Customs Organization, the GACC and TAXUD EC launched the SSTL Pilot Project in 2007, which aims at enabling traders to enjoy more efficient and predictable cargo clearance, in terms of reduced examination or prioritized clearance, at both exporting and importing ends through enhanced Customs-to-Customs and Customs-to-Business cooperation.

Upon GACC's invitation, Hong Kong Customs has attended the Working Group Meetings of SSTL Pilot Project as an observer since 2007. To enhance Hong Kong's role as an international logistics hub, Hong Kong Customs formally joined the project in 2013 after the official launch of the Hong Kong Authorized

Economic Operator Programme in 2012. Our participation not only demonstrated the endeavor of Hong Kong Customs in strengthening our ties with the Mainland and the European countries, but also provided more clearance benefits to the local logistics industry.

Participating in the SSTL Pilot Project are six ports, including Hong Kong, from China and nine ports from European countries, including Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Poland, Spain and the UK.

Way Forward

The SSTL Pilot Project currently covers only sea and rail shipments

but will extend to the air mode in future. To promote the sustainable development of the project, the GACC and TAXUD EC have planned to proceed with Phase 3 of the project with expansion in the pilot trade routes and more participating traders. Hong Kong Customs will continue to actively participate in the project with an aim to strengthen the competitiveness of the local logistics industry and maintain Hong Kong's status as a premier logistic hub as well as a supply-chain base.

Office of Supply Chain Security Management



A glimpse of the meeting.

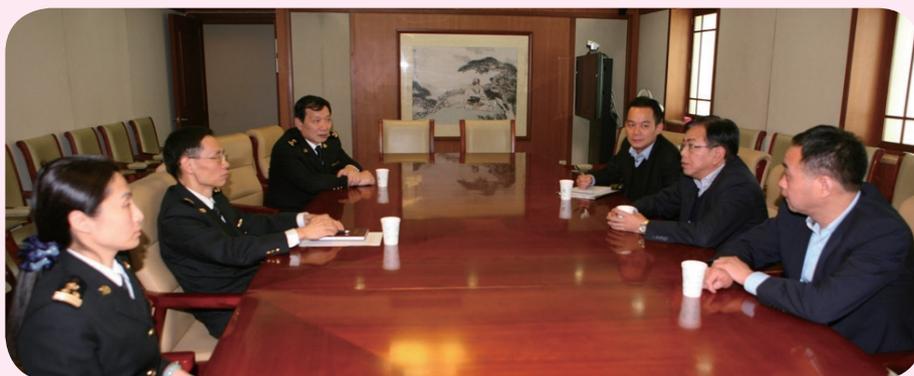
HK CUSTOMS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER VISITS MAINLAND CUSTOMS

The Deputy Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Yu Koon-hing, led a delegation to visit Beijing from October 13 to 15, 2014 and paid courtesy calls on senior officials of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) for the first time since taking office. Mr Yu met with Mr Chen Zhenchong, Director General of the Department of Science and Technology, Mr Xu Wenrong, Director General of the Anti-smuggling Bureau, and Mr Gao Rongkun, Director General of Beijing Customs District.

Mr Yu and GACC officials took the opportunity to exchange views on stepping up future cooperation

and developing Customs business on various fronts. Discussions were held over a number of key areas, including the development of a single window system, further cargo clearance facilitation through the ROCARS of Hong Kong Customs and the Road

Manifests Management System of the Mainland Customs, cross-boundary enforcement against drug trafficking and smuggling activities, and enhancement of Customs cooperation between Hong Kong International Airport and Beijing Capital International Airport.



Mr Yu Koon-hing (second right), meets with Mr Chen Zhenchong (second left).

DEPUTY COMMISSIONER JOINS HANDS WITH MEMBERS OF PAN PEARL RIVER DELTA REGION IN THE FIGHT AGAINST SMUGGLING

The Pan Pearl River Delta (PRD) Region Anti-Smuggling Conference was held in Guangzhou on September 25, 2014. The Deputy Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Yu Koon-hing, attended the meeting and signed a revised "Agreement on Anti-Smuggling Cooperation in Pan-PRD Region".

Anti-smuggling authorities from Fujian, Jiangxi, Hunan, Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Sichuan, Guizhou, Yunnan provinces, together with Customs representatives of Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions attended the meeting. At the meeting, all parties reviewed the achievements of the anti-smuggling work under



Mr Yu Koon-hing delivers a speech at the Pan Pearl River Delta Region Anti-Smuggling Conference.

the established Pan-PRD regional cooperation mechanism and discussed the way forward for the next round of regional plan.

Since the official launching of the Pan-PRD regional cooperation mechanism in 2005, Hong Kong Customs has been making every endeavor to execute the Agreement for achieving fruitful results. After nearly a decade, a solid foundation for regional cooperation has been established. A more pragmatic approach will be adopted in the revised Agreement with a view to pursuing higher effectiveness and greater success in the fight against smuggling in the region.

Intelligence Bureau

HONG KONG AND KOREA CUSTOMS TO ORGANIZE MUTUAL STUDY PROGRAMMES



The Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support) of Hong Kong Customs, Mr David Fong (centre), and Director General, Information Management and International Affairs Bureau of Korea Customs Service, Mr Kim Kwang-ho (fourth right), with the delegates.

A four-member delegation led by Staff Officer (Customs Affairs and Cooperation), Mr Kwan Chung-yin, attended a Study Programme organized by the Korea Customs Service (KCS) in Seoul between August 4 and 7, 2014.

The three-day Programme is an

initiative proposed by Hong Kong Customs (HKC) and agreed by the KCS in the 31st Customs Cooperation Conference in February 2014. The Programme, which is to be held alternately in Korea and in Hong Kong, aims to provide a valuable opportunity for officers of both sides to learn more

about their individual best practices, enabling them to broaden their vision and further develop their professionalism.

Apart from having a comprehensive outline on the Korean Single Window system, UNI-PASS, the Hong Kong delegates were also briefed comprehensively on the drug enforcement and intelligence work as well as passenger profiling techniques of KCS. More importantly, the delegates treasured much KCS' expertise and got the most from the learning and experience-sharing processes.

The Programme offered promising prospect for KCS and HKC officers to develop stronger links and foster closer strategic partnership.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

HK CUSTOMS SHARES IDEAS AT APEC MEETING



Mr David Fong (left) speaks in the meeting.

Leading a delegation of Hong Kong Customs, the Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr David Fong, attended the 2014 2nd APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures (SCCP2) in Beijing, China from August 13 to 15, 2014.

In a discussion session at the meeting, Mr Fong shared his

views on the proposed guidelines on customs transit arrangement which aimed to improve customs clearance efficiency in the Asia-Pacific region. Echoing other economies on Customs' role in enhancing law enforcement against illegal activities in cross-border e-commerce, he also highlighted the importance of Customs collective efforts in strengthening

enforcement capabilities, such as intelligence sharing and application of automated screening technology to tackle the emerging risks and challenges arising from cross-border e-commerce.

Member economies discussed other Customs issues, in particular a new proposal to formulate a set of standards for signatories of the Authorized Economic Operator Mutual Recognition Arrangement (AEO MRA) to identify AEOs and

their cargoes reliably. Members expressed support to the proposal and considered that it will contribute to the facilitation and control of goods along the supply chain, as well as laying down the foundation in formulating a related capacity building plan for developing economies.

Prior to the SCCP2 Meeting, Hong Kong Customs' delegation also took the opportunity to attend the APEC Customs-Business Dialogue

(ACBD) on August 12, 2014. At the forum, delegates from both Customs and the private sector recognized the importance of Customs-Business cooperation in the domain of cross-border e-commerce, single window and AEO. Both sides aimed to work towards achieving trade facilitation and enhancing supply-chain connectivity.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

ANNUAL MEETING BETWEEN HONG KONG AND MACAO CUSTOMS

With geographical proximity, Hong Kong Customs has maintained a close working tie with the Macao Customs Service (MCS) on various fronts. The 2014 Annual Meeting held in Hong Kong on September 17, entering its 32nd year, provided an effective channel for the two administrations to discuss and exchange views on matters of common interest.

The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Clement Cheung, and the Director General of the MCS, Mr Choi Lai Hang, jointly officiated at the opening ceremony. The two Customs heads affirmed the continued cooperation efforts and pledged to further collaborate on a number of initiatives, including the "Cooperation on Customs Clearance for the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge" and the "Declaration cum Disclosure System for Cross-boundary Transportation of Bulk Currency and Bearer Negotiable Instrument".



Delegations of the 32nd Annual Meeting between Hong Kong Customs and Macao Customs Service / Macao Economic Services.

The meeting after the ceremony was chaired by the Head of Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation, Mr Kwan Chung-yin. Both sides reviewed the outcome of cooperation relating to protection of intellectual property rights, intelligence sharing, combating cross-boundary drug trafficking and smuggling activities. Taking this opportunity, Hong Kong Customs introduced to MCS representatives

the "Enhanced Facilitation Measures for Wine Entering the Mainland through Hong Kong".

The fruitful discussions in the meeting have enhanced mutual understanding and further cooperation between the two administrations.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

IT EXPERT GROUP MEETING BETWEEN HONG KONG CUSTOMS AND GACC YIELDS POSITIVE RESULTS



Mr David Fong (second right), Principal Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, Mr Edward Yu (first right), and Mr Chen Zhenchong (third left) at the meeting.

Following the last IT Expert Group Meeting between Hong Kong Customs and the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GACC) held in May 2014 in Hong Kong, both sides continued to pursue with initiatives to enhance Customs capability in meeting the robust growth of cross-boundary e-commerce.

For further collaboration, the two Customs administrations held the third IT Expert Group Meeting in Beijing from October 20 to 22,

2014. The Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr David Fong, led a delegation to attend the meeting and had constructive interflow with the team led by Mr Chen Zhenchong, the Director General of the Department of Scientific and Technological Development of GACC.

Among the major topics discussed at the meeting was the development of a Single Window system. The meeting was also attended by representatives from Commerce and Economic Development

Bureau and the consultancy firm commissioned by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to conduct a study on the Single Window system. The two Customs administrations held an in-depth discussion on the technical aspect and explored the feasibility of implementing system connection in the future.

Meanwhile, the meeting also attained encouraging results in the following areas:

- * connection of IT infrastructure for exchange of road cargo information between both sides;
- * review of the IT system for the Wine Facilitation Scheme; and
- * enhancement of Customs control on courier and postal services through the use of information technology.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

THE 20TH WORKING GROUP MEETING WITH GUANGDONG CUSTOMS ON OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY OF CONTROL POINTS

In view of the ever increasing passenger and cargo flow between the Mainland and Hong Kong, both sides attached great importance to the enhancement of operational efficiency of respective control points. Meetings will be held from time to time for mutual collaboration.

The 20th Working Group Meeting on Operational Efficiency of Control Points between the Guangdong Sub-Administration of China Customs (GSAC) and Hong Kong Customs was held in Zhanjiang from October 15 to 17, 2014. The Assistant Commissioner (Boundary

and Ports), Mr Tang Yi-hoi, leading a delegation comprising five representatives from the Land Boundary Command, the Ports and Maritime Command, the Office of Project Planning and Development, and the Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation, attended the meeting.

The Guangdong delegation was headed by the Deputy Director General of GSAC, Mr Zhao Min. The other five delegates were from GSAC, Zhanjiang Customs and Shenzhen Customs.

At the meeting, the two administrations exchanged views

on various aspects, including the preparatory work for cooperation on Customs clearance at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, inter-connection arrangement for the Intermodal Transshipment Facilitation Scheme of Hong Kong and the Speedy Customs Clearance in Guangdong, data exchange on

river trade vessels, and review of the “Cross Border Supply Chain Connectivity Feasibility Study” conducted by GS1 Hong Kong. The meeting reached consensus over a number of issues and helped enhance communication and cooperation between the two sides.



Mr Tang Yi-hoi (centre) with Mr Zhao Min (seventh right) and members of the delegations.

HEADS OF WCO ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL TRAINING CENTRES MEET IN THAILAND

The Senior Staff Officer (Training and Development) of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Koon Hon-chuen, and Senior Inspector, Ms Lau Pui-shan, represented Hong Kong Customs in the 12th Heads of World Customs Organization (WCO) Asia Pacific Regional Training Centres (RTCs) Meeting cum the 10th Anniversary Ceremony of WCO Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building (ROCB A/P) from November 5 to 7, 2014 in Bangkok, Thailand.



Mr Koon Hon-chuen (sixth right, front row) in a group photo with participants of the meeting.

The meeting aimed to further strengthen cooperation among the ROCB A/P, the Regional Vice Chair Office and the RTCs in the Asia Pacific region. The meeting would help provide better capacity building activities to WCO Asia Pacific members. In addition to representatives from the WCO, the ROCB A/P and the Regional Vice Chair Office, other participants

included the officials of the RTC in China, Fiji, India, Japan, Korea and Malaysia.

At the meeting, Mr Koon gave a presentation on Customs Professionalization Scheme of Hong Kong Customs, the challenges since its implementation and its latest development. Other RTC officials also introduced their training work.

Besides, the meeting reviewed the capacity building initiatives by the WCO and discussed the way on further strengthening the linkage between the ROCB A/P and the RTCs in the region.

All RTCs agreed to continue the valuable cooperation with the ROCB A/P and other regional members for the betterment of capacity building.

MEETINGS ON CUSTOMS CLEARANCE COOPERATION FOR HONG KONG-ZHUHAI-MACAO BRIDGE PROJECT



Delegates led by Mr Tang Yi-hoi (fifth left) and Mr Sin Wun-kao (fifth right).

To tie in with the opening of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB), a series of meetings on Customs clearance cooperation were held by Guangdong Customs, Hong Kong Customs and Macao Customs Service earlier.

The Assistant Commissioner (Boundary and Ports) of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Tang Yi-hoi, led a delegation with members from the Intelligence Bureau, Land Boundary Command, Office of Project Planning and Development and Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation to attend a meeting at Macao on Customs clearance for the HZMB with the Macao Customs Service on October 24, 2014. The meeting discussed arrangements for clearance cooperation between Hong Kong and Macao.



The 2nd High-Level Meeting for the Cooperation on Customs Clearance for the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge with Guangdong and Macao delegations.

In addition, the 2nd High-Level Meeting for the Cooperation on Customs Clearance for the HZMB among Guangdong Customs, Hong Kong Customs and Macao

Customs Service was held in Hong Kong on November 13 and 14, 2014. Mr Tang led a four-member delegation comprising relevant representatives from Hong Kong Customs in the meeting. The Guangdong delegation was led by the Deputy Director General of the Guangdong Sub-Administration of General Administration of Customs, Mr Zhao Min and the Deputy Director General of GongBei Customs, Mr Xue Yuan while the Macao delegation was led by

Assistant Director-General of the Macao Customs Service, Mr Sin Wun-ka.

At the meeting, the three sides reported on their respective work progress for the project and shared views on various aspects of cooperation, including establishing channels for exchange of information and intelligence, and tasks to be handled in the next stage. The discussion was productive which enhanced mutual understanding

and facilitated further cooperation among the three administrations on Customs clearance.

The delegations also visited the Project Information Centre to see for themselves the work progress of the artificial island of the HZMB Hong Kong Boundary Crossing Facilities.

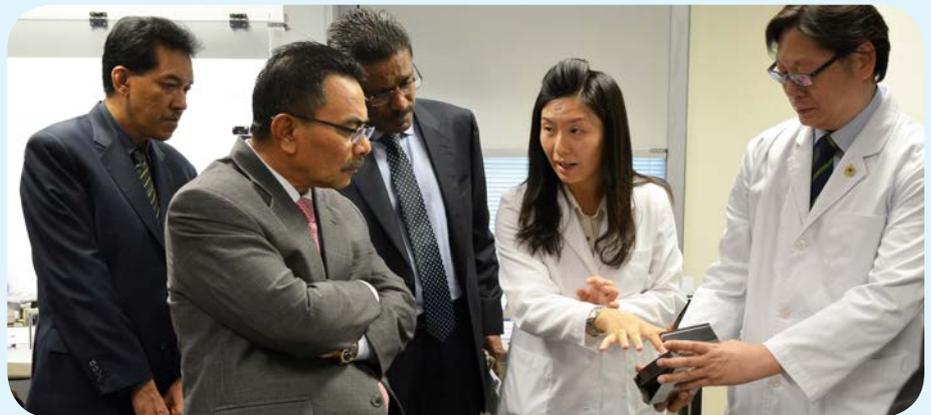
Office of Project Planning and Development

SENIOR OFFICIALS VISIT HK CUSTOMS

In the third quarter of 2014, officials from two overseas counterparts paid visits to Hong Kong Customs with a view to having a better understanding of our clearance measures, training modules and facilities, as well as computer forensic techniques, etc.

In August, the Deputy Minister of Customs and Trade of Turkey, Mr Fatih Metin, visited the Department and exchanged views on operational matters with the Deputy Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Yu Koon-hing. While looking forward to developing cooperative arrangements with the Department in future, Mr Metin expressed keen interest in our Automatic Vehicles Recognition System and Road Cargo System.

To foster a closer cooperation with Hong Kong Customs, the Director General of the Royal Malaysian



Mr Dato' Sri Khazali bin Haji Ahmad (first left, front row) and other delegates visit the Computer Forensic Laboratory.

Customs Department, Mr Dato' Sri Khazali bin Haji Ahmad, leading a delegation, visited the Department in late September. Welcomed by Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Clement Cheung, Mr Dato' Sri Khazali and his colleagues were briefed on details of the operation at the container terminals, training mechanism and facilities, as well as computer forensic investigation by officers of

respective Formations. Apart from enhancing closer ties, both sides were committed to taking forward the Project on Customs Anti-drug Strategy (Project CADS) to effectively deter the drug trafficking problem in the Asia/ Pacific region.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

HONG KONG CUSTOMS VISITS MAINLAND CUSTOMS ACADEMIES

The Assistant Commissioner (Administration and Human Resource Development), Mr Lin Shun-yin, led a three-member delegation to attend a meeting with the National Education and Training Centre of the General Administration of Customs in Beijing from November 24 to 28, 2014. The visit aimed to discuss further cooperation in the coming year and to gain a better understanding of the experience on implementing e-learning in Mainland Customs.

The delegation also visited the Shanghai Customs College and the Chinese Academy of Customs Administration in Qinghuangdao to learn more about the education and training system of Mainland Customs.



The delegation visits China Customs Museum.



Mr Lin (second left) visits the China Customs Museum.



Mr Xiao Jianguo (right), the President of the Shanghai Customs College, introduces the history of the college to Mr Lin Shun-yin.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA CUSTOMS OFFICIALS VISIT HONG KONG

The Assistant Commissioner Border Management of Papua New Guinea (PNG) Customs Service, Mr Kila Karo, and a five-member delegation paid a study visit to Hong Kong Customs between September 1 and 5, 2014.

The delegation was warmly received by the Assistant Commissioner

(Boundary and Ports), Mr Tang Yi-hoi, and held an in-depth discussion with Mr Tang on issues relating to border enforcement control.

Arrangements were made for the PNG delegates to visit Formations engaging in investigations, the airport, land boundary control points and training facilities. In

addition to gaining an overall understanding of the operational measures and training practices of Hong Kong Customs, the delegates also conducted fruitful exchanges on topical enforcement issues with frontline officers. While appreciating the advanced clearance systems and examination equipment, they were impressed by the entire



Mr Kila Karo (third left, front row) and other PNG delegates visit Hong Kong Customs Training School.

enforcement mechanism of the Department. The delegates found the visit inspiring and looked forward to working closely with Hong Kong Customs in future.

Office of Customs Affairs and Cooperation

CUSTOMS OFFICER ATTENDS FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION COURSE IN UNITED KINGDOM

To enhance professional competence in combating transnational money laundering crimes, the Inspector of the Syndicate Crimes Investigation Bureau, Mr Andy Hui, attended a Financial Investigation Course organized by the HM Revenue and Customs (HMRC) in Leeds, the United Kingdom between September 22 and 26, 2014.

The training programme aimed at building up a solid foundation of core skills that are pre-requisite qualities for a financial investigator. It covered various topics, including legal framework in combating money laundering, financial investigation strategies and planning, as well as financial accounting analysis.

Integrating interactive discussions and case studies, the programme enabled the participants to enhance

their expertise knowledge and provided them with insights into anti-money laundering laws and financial investigation. The programme also served as a valuable platform for

experience sharing and networking with the other nine HMRC officers from different cities of the United Kingdom.



Mr Andy Hui (middle, front row) with the course instructors and participants.

ADVANCED NATIONAL STUDIES COURSE FOR HONG KONG DISCIPLINED SERVICES

The 10th Advanced National Studies Course for Hong Kong Disciplined Services was held at the Chinese Academy of Governance in Beijing from October 13 to 24, 2014. The Deputy Commissioner, Mr Yu Koon-hing, represented the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government to officiate at the opening ceremony of the course. Taking part in the course

were 30 participants from seven disciplined services, including Hong Kong Customs, Hong Kong Police Force, Fire Services Department, Immigration Department, Independent Commission Against Corruption, Correctional Services Department and Government Flying Service. The Senior Superintendent, Ms Tam So-ying, Assistant Superintendent, Mr Lai Ka-lok, and

Assistany Superintendent, Ms Sun Wai-ye, from Hong Kong Customs joined the course.

The 12-day training programme covered contemporary strategies and cooperation between the enforcement agencies of the Mainland and HKSAR.



Participants deliver presentations.

CUSTOMS MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR MAINLAND CUSTOMS

The Office of Training and Development organized the “No.3 Customs Management Course” between October 20 and November 1, 2014 for 15 Mainland Customs director-grade officers from various Customs districts in Mainland China. The No. 3 Customs Management Course provided training to Mainland Customs participants on modern Customs management with classroom lectures, experience sharing and site visits to various Customs clearance facilities and museums. The course also provided a platform to promote the learning and sharing between the managerial officers of Mainland and Hong Kong Customs.



Mainland Customs director-grade officers visit Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound.

17TH CUSTOMS COMMAND COURSE

The Higher Training Division of the Office of Training and Development organized the 17th Customs Command Course for 15 Senior Inspectors and three Senior Trade Controls Officers from November 6 to 28, 2014. The course helps equip participants with modern management skills and knowledge. Participants are expected to be able to put management concepts into practice in day-to-day operations and develop their leadership potential in meeting future challenges. Former senior government officials, experienced human resources management consultants and university



Training on stand-up interview by media.

academics were invited to deliver talks in the course. Participants found the course inspiring with

many innovative ideas and practical experience shared by the speakers.