Agreement between the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the World Customs Organization (WCO)

1. The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), hereinafter referred to as the OIE, and the World Customs Organization (established in 1952 as the Customs Cooperation Council), hereinafter referred to as the WCO, will keep the other Party informed of activities that may be of mutual interest.

2. Each Organisation will invite the other party to participate as an observer in its meetings where matters of mutual interest may arise, and make the reports of these meetings available.

3. The OIE and the WCO will exchange their catalogue of publications to enable both Organisations to request publications on activities related to their work. The OIE and the WCO will exchange free copies of documents and publications on subjects of mutual interest.

4. The two Organisations will endeavour to cooperate further through both formal and informal consultations on issues of common interest, in particular the issues listed below.

   Issues of common interest:
   – the dissemination of general information on legal and illegal international trade in live animals and products of animal origin;
   – the development and revision of international standards designed to ensure the security of international trade;
   – collaboration with other intergovernmental organisations, in particular the WTO, WHO, FAO, CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) and BWC (Biological Weapons Convention), and professional organisations, in particular IATA, on the international transport of live animals and products of animal origin;
   – import controls on live animals, products of animal origin, and biological samples
   – the prevention of smuggling and fraud in trade in live animals and products of animal origin;
   – communication and information strategies on smuggling and fraud in trade in live animals and products of animal origin;
   – strengthening of links between the Veterinary Services and the Customs in Member Countries and Territories;
   – veterinary certification and the setting up of a central database recording identified smugglers;
   – notification of the interception and rejection of goods by Member Countries and Territories;
   – prevention of the inappropriate use of animal disease pathogens and zoonosis pathogens.

Adopted by the OIE and the WCO on 19 November 2008

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