

Pooling of Information Concerning Customs Fraud

1. On the 8th June, 1967, the Customs Co-operation Council of Brussels adopted a Recommendation on the Pooling of Information Concerning Customs Fraud.
2. The Council, conscious of the adverse effects of Customs fraud on the economic and fiscal interests of Member States and that Customs fraud can be combated more effectively by the exchange of Information relating to it, enjoins Member States to participate in a Scheme for the pooling of information concerning matters of Customs fraud.
3. For this purpose, these matters of Customs fraud are classified under the five following headings each treated in a separate Annex:-
  - i. Persons convicted of Customs Fraud;
  - ii. Places of concealment in Means of Transport;
  - iii. Methods of Smuggling (other than by Concealment in means of Transport);
  - iv. Goods particularly liable to be Smuggled; and
  - v. Fraud by Forgery, Falsification or Counterfeiting.
4. In accordance with the procedure laid down in the Recommendation each Member State on notifying acceptance would indicate in respect of which of the five Annexes it agrees to participate and would communicate to the Secretary General of the Council any information which is of particular interest from the international point of view and which is specified in the Annex or Annexes in respect of which the Recommendation has been accepted.
5. The Secretary General would keep a central index of information forwarded to him by the Member State and would make available to a Member State any information which is requested provided that information concerns the Annex or Annexes which that country has agreed to participate in. All information would be treated as confidential and would be communicated to Officials directly concerned.

L-Arkiyji Nazzjonali ta' Malta

6. It is felt that acceptance of this Recommendation would be **beneficial** to Malta and would be of particular help in Government's ever increasing efforts to eliminate contraband and smuggling. It is suggested that agreement to participate in all the matters listed in the five separate Annexes should be indicated when acceptance of this Recommendation is notified.
7. Acceptance of this Recommendation would not require the introduction of any legislation.
8. The Crown Advocate General has been consulted on the matter under reference and has advised that the Malta Government may adhere to the Recommendation in question.
9. Hon. Ministers are requested to signify their approval of Malta's acceptance of this Recommendation.