

MEMORANDUM TO CABINET BY THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF
COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND THE HONOURABLE MINISTER
OF FINANCE, CUSTOMS AND PORT

Recommendations adopted by the
Customs Co-operation Council

The Convention establishing a Customs Co-operation Council of Brussels provides in its Article III (g) that the functions of the Council shall be 'on its own initiative or on request, to furnish to interested Governments information or advice on matters within the general purposes of the present Convention and to make recommendation thereon'.

2. The Council has, to-date, adopted some twenty recommendations dealing with the various aspects of Customs procedure. The Council was of the opinion that some of these Recommendations, which have already been widely disseminated among member states, might also be of interest to other States (Malta is not yet a member state but her membership is being actively considered).

3. The Council, through the Economic Commission for Europe has asked the Malta Government whether it is prepared to apply, or whether it is in fact already applying, all or any of the following recommendations:

- (i) Recommendation concerning the use of temporary importation papers in respect of radio and television vans;
- (ii) Recommendation on samples to be regarded as being of negligible value within the meaning of the International Convention to Facilitate the Importation of Commercial Samples and Advertising Material;
- (iii) Recommendation concerning the repayment or remission of duties on goods refused by the importers as not conforming to contract;
- (iv) Recommendation concerning tax-free shops;
- (v) Recommendation/.....

- (v) Recommendation concerning the Customs treatment of provisions carried in restaurant cars, pullman cars, sleeping cars and similar cars on international express trains;
- (vi) Recommendation concerning the Customs treatment of registered baggage carried by rail;
- (vii) Recommendation concerning repayment or remission of import duties and taxes on goods destroyed or lost;
- (viii) Recommendation concerning the refund of import duties and taxes on shortages;
- (ix) Recommendation concerning the free admission of removal articles imported on transfer of residence;
- (x) Recommendation concerning the use of A.T.A. Carnets for commercial samples;
- (xi) Recommendations to facilitate the temporary exportation of goods sent from one country for manufacture, processing or repair in another;
- (xii) Recommendation concerning the adoption of a lay-out key for the goods declaration.

4. Some of the procedures involved in the application of these Recommendations are already being followed locally; other procedures are acceptable for local application (after the necessary legislative amendments) while others are not. It is not given to a contracting Party to propose changes or to outline the position of recommendations with which it does not comply in full. With certain recommendations, however, the difference in procedure followed locally and that recommended by the Council is so slight that the "recommended" procedure could be adopted.

5. Ministers/.....

5. Ministers are invited to agree that, of the recommendations listed at paragraph 3 above notification of acceptance, without reservation and on a reciprocal basis, be given to recommendations numbered I, II, IV, and X. Texts of these recommendations are with the Secretary to Cabinet.

4th December, 1966.

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