

CONVENTION ESTABLISHING A CUSTOMS CO-OPERATION COUNCIL.

The Governments signatory to the present Convention,

Considering it advisable to secure the highest degree of harmony and uniformity in their customs systems and especially to study the problems inherent in the development and improvement of customs technique and customs legislation in connection therewith,

Convinced that it will be in the interests of international trade to promote co-operation between Governments in these matters, bearing in mind the economic and technical factors involved therein,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE I

A Customs Co-operation Council (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") is hereby set up.

ARTICLE II

- (a) The Members of the Council shall be:
 - (i) the Contracting Parties to the present Convention;
 - (ii) the Government of any separate customs territory which is proposed by a Contracting Party having responsibility for the formal conduct of its diplomatic relations, which is autonomous in the conduct of its external commercial relations and whose admission as a separate Member is approved by the Council.
- (b) Any Government of a separate customs territory, which is a Member of the Council under paragraph (a)(ii) above, shall cease to be a Member on notification to the Council of the withdrawal of its membership by the Contracting Party having responsibility for the formal conduct of its diplomatic relations.
- (c) Each Member shall nominate one delegate and one or more alternates to be its representatives on the Council. These representatives may be assisted by advisers.
- (d) The Council may admit representatives of non-member Governments or of international organisations in the capacity of observers.

ARTICLE III

The functions of the Council shall be:

- (a) to study all questions relating to co-operation in customs matters which the Contracting Parties agree to promote in conformity with the general purposes of the present Convention;
- (b) to examine the technical aspects, as well as the economic factors related thereto, of customs systems with a view to proposing to its Members practical means of attaining the highest possible degree of harmony and uniformity;