

## ANNEX IX

## Pooling of information

1. The Customs administrations of Contracting Parties shall communicate to the Secretary General of the Council the information specified hereafter insofar as it is of international interest.

2. The Secretary General of the Council shall institute and keep up-to-date a central index of information communicated to him by Contracting Parties and shall use information from it to prepare summaries and studies of new and recurring trends in Customs fraud. He shall periodically review the index to eliminate information which, in his opinion, has outlived its utility or become out-of-date.

3. The Customs administrations of the Contracting Parties shall, upon request by the Secretary General of the Council and subject to the other provisions of the Convention and this Annex, provide the Secretary General with such complementary information as may be necessary to prepare the summaries and studies referred to in paragraph 2 of this Annex.

4. The Secretary General of the Council shall circulate to the services or officials named by the Customs administrations of the Contracting Parties specific information contained in the central index, to the extent that he deems such circulation useful, and any summaries and studies referred to in paragraph 2 of this Annex.

5. The Secretary General of the Council shall, upon request, supply Contracting Parties with any other information available to him under this Annex.

6. The Secretary General of the Council shall honour any restrictions that a Contracting Party having provided information may have placed on its circulation.

7. A Contracting Party having communicated information shall be entitled