(ii) new means and methods of committing offences;

(iii) categories of goods known to be the subject of offences;

(iv) persons suspected of committing offences and any means of transportation suspected of being used to commit offences.

ARTICLE 5

Investigations

Upon the request of the Customs Administration of either Contracting Party, the Customs Administration of the other Contracting Party shall undertake to verify facts and make inspections or investigations in connection with an offence, and shall communicate its findings to the requesting Customs Administration.

ARTICLE 6

Obligation to observe confidentiality

1. Any information, communications and documents received may be used only for the purposes of this Agreement. They may be made available to persons other than those charged with using them for the purposes of this Agreement only with the express approval of the authority providing them.

2. Requests, information, expert opinions and other documents received by the Customs Administration of a Contracting Party to this Agreement shall be treated as confidential and shall be granted the protection from disclosure provided by the laws of that Contracting Party for such information.

ARTICLE 7

Exemption from the obligation to provide assistance

1. Where a Customs Administration whose assistance is requested is of the view that compliance with a request is likely to be detrimental to its national sovereignty or security, public policy or other important interests of its country, it may decline to provide its assistance in whole or in part, or may stipulate that its provision of assistance shall be dependent upon the fulfilment of certain conditions or requirements.

2. Where a request is made for assistance that the requesting Customs Administration itself would be unable to provide, the requesting Customs Administration shall draw attention to this fact in its request. Compliance with such a request shall be within the discretion of the Customs Administration whose assistance is requested.