



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 12 April 2013**

**8377/13**

**ENFOCUSTOM 68**

**NOTE**

from:	Lithuanian delegation
to:	Customs Cooperation Working Party
Subject:	Draft mandate for action 6.1 “To evaluate the implementation of all previous actions plans to ensure proper follow up of the recommendations, with particular emphasis on those addressed to the CCWP and the Commission.”

**1. Presidency**

**IRELAND**

**2. Action Plan Reference and Content**

Action 6.1

“To evaluate the implementation of all previous actions plans to ensure proper follow up of the recommendations, with particular emphasis on those addressed to the CCWP and the Commission.”

### **3. Strategy for the future of Customs Law Enforcement Cooperation –Strategic objectives applicable<sup>1</sup>**

#### **STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE:**

1. Improve institutional co-operation with other law enforcement authorities, agencies and (non–EU) international organisations.
2. Enhance operational co-operation between customs authorities, including authorities in third countries that deal with customs issues.
3. Ensure effective information management for the purposes of law enforcement.

### **4. Project Group Terms of Reference**

Lithuania is going to lead this Project group.

#### **Background:**

The majority of actions under the different Action Plans have been developed through project groups which have submitted final reports to CCWP. Up to now there have been 5 Action Plans with a total of 97 actions.

The final reports have resulted in a great number of recommendations addressed to Member States, CCWP and the Commission. The list of all recommendations is in the monitoring file. The work on the monitoring file was started by the Belgian Presidency. The latest monitoring file was prepared by the Danish Presidency and contains the recommendations from the first to the fourth action plan.

Until today there has not been a systematic review of the benefits of these recommendations and on how they have improved the work of the customs law enforcement cooperation.

Time has come to take stock of the work carried out before developing further Action Plans.

One way to evaluate the benefits of the work carried out is to look at the extent to which the recommendations have been implemented by member states, Commission and CCWP.

To limit the scope of this review, the review will mainly be looking at recommendations addressed to the CCWP and the Commission.

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<sup>1</sup> doc. 17778/12 07/12/12 ENFOCUSTOM 142 COSI 131

**The purpose** of Action 6.1 is to produce an overall report which will

- provide an overview of the reports prepared under the five actions plans (summary of content, summary of main recommendations, short description of working methodology)
- link the recommendations made in the reports to the overall development that has taken place in the area of Customs law enforcement cooperation, and
- assess to which degree the recommendations have contributed to the development of the customs law enforcement cooperation
- take stock of the areas where the recommendations have not been implemented and give reasons to any obstacles for their implementation
- give recommendations to the way forward concerning those recommendations which have not been implemented

**Working method:**

The project group will mainly work virtually via exchange of emails, phone etc.

When the project team has been formed the Team Leader will distribute the tasks to the project team members according to their wishes and experiences. The Action will mainly be carried out as a desk study based on written material already available to the CCWP with ad hoc meetings if needed. Member states and the Commission may be contacted ad hoc for information by the Team Leader. In addition the project team may use the possibility of sending out a questionnaire to obtain opinions.

5. Timetable	
Action	Date
Presentation and possible adoption of the mandate at the CCWP	18 April 2013
Deadline for nomination of Team Leader and Group members	1 May 2013
Start-up meeting with distribution of task.	The day before the CCWP meeting in May 2013
Draft report ready to be discussed by project team	~ 15 September 2013
Presentation of Draft Report to CCWP	10 October 2013

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8. Point of Contact from Project Team	
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9. Annex References (if applicable)