



Luxembourg

Coat of arms of the Luxembourg state,
represented on the entrance gate
of the ministry of Foreign affairs



The Grand Ducal
Palace



The headquarters
of the Government



The Philharmony



The building housing the
Court of Justice of the EC



IACM ANNUAL REPORT 2010

OFFICIAL JOURNAL
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF CUSTOMS
AND TAX MUSEUMS





IACM ANNUAL REPORT **2010**

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www.customsmuseums.org

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EDITORIAL

DEAR COLLEAGUES OF IACM



A new year, even a new decade has already started. I hope, you had all a good start in 2011 filled with luck and health. And I hope also that our customs and finance museums had a good start and that 2011 and the years after will be a success story. I'm confident that will be the case. New museums are planned or being build. Others are or have already been renovated. Several customs administrations all over the world are thinking of creating customs museums. These are signs that make me optimistic for the future of our museums, but also for our association.

At the beginning of the new year, everybody thinks over the last years and the new to come. Good ideas, intentions are taken and the will is big to achieve the aims set. But as you all know, as the months pass, we get more and more lazy and quiet and at the end of the year, we must admit that the aims were somehow too high or our will of achievement too weak. I see it for myself, but also in the IACM. Datelines are fixed in order to send articles, questions, answers and so on, and every year at the general assembly, everybody agrees that these datelines should be respected and you know the end of the tale, the datelines are mostly not respected, and requests for answers must be sent out for reminder. My wish is that we should try altogether to respect these datelines in 2011, because it makes the work for other colleagues much easier and our association a little bit more professional.

Several months have passed since our last conference and annual general assembly in Luxembourg, but the members of IACM made a great step for a successful

future of our association with the decisions taken. The decision to fix a serious level of needs to be applied for a successful conference without too much financial means led to the fact that the places for the next 5 years are already fixed. A situation never seen before. I'm sure the list will be expanded at the conference in Prague this year in September. Also the changes in the agenda were successful. The discussions during the question and answers session were interesting and helpful for all the participants. Even the discussed subject CITES was presented under several points of view. From the legal frame over the customs work in practice to the presentation of artefacts in museums and practical exercise for all participants (a highlight of the conference). Also the fact that the participants discussed and decided together about the subject for the next conference was very positive and should enable the participants to prepare themselves for the discussions and presentations. I'm already now looking forward to the results of the conference in September. With all the efforts done since 18 years, the IACM is slowly but constantly moving to a serious, useful and helpful association and with the help and engagement of all the members, I'm sure the next years will bring our association in great steps forward.

I hope to see you all at the next conference and general assembly in Prague and I'm looking forward to see new members joining us in our great job of preserving the important history and tradition of customs and finance administrations.

**Henri Nimax,
President of IACM**

AUSTRIA

AT THE BEGINNING WAS A SKIN OF A LEOPARD

The customs museum in Vienna houses a modest collection of CITES objects. It began with the provision of an untamed, seized skin of an African leopard by the research service of the customs office of Klagenfurt in Kärnten.

The head of the customs investigation had been my student a few years earlier at the customs school. The transfer of the object from the customs office to the museum could of course only be realized with the approval of the Ministry of economy.

Consequently, all confiscated items of CITES were given to the customs museum in Vienna

by the Ministry. At a certain moment, I had to stop other transfer due to a lack of space. My demand to the administration for further space wasn't accepted.

Today, the collection includes various animal products, which appear in the lists of CITES.

It is very sad that the customs museum in Vienna has today only a small and modest place in the Federal-Finance-Academy, the former Federal customs and customs guard school. Especially the collection of CITES could certainly contribute a lot to a more positive idea of nature protection.

Ferdinand Hampl



AZERBAIJAN

States that signed Convention on “International trade of scarce flora and fauna species” are working on protection of environment by taking vital and serious steps. This Convention that voluntarily joins states with different political standpoint, religious belief, and national relation in fact carries out very urgent mission. An ecological bounding involves countries to establish international cooperation. In 1998, during the authority of a national leader, Haydar Aliyev Azerbaijan Republic was joined to the Convention on “International trade of scarce flora and fauna species”. Different agencies, organizations of the Republic in compliance with the requirements of this convention protect scarce flora and fauna species. Along with this, about 60 rare plant species are protected in Nabatat garden of National Academy of Science of Azerbaijan Republic. The researches relating flora and fauna are carried out as well as in “Nature history museum” named after Hasan bay Zardabi of Institute of Geology of National Academy of Science. Furthermore, stuffed animals and animal skeletons are kept in museum consisting of departments of zoology, paleontology and geology. Customs bodies of our Republic carry out purposeful activities in this respect. Thus, the exhibits that belong to the 19th century made of rare trees, mother-pearl and animal bones are kept in Customs Historical Museum.

During 8 months of 2007-2010 about 168 kg caviar was kept by Customs bodies of Azerbaijan Republic. In 2007-2009 great amount of flora and fauna species that were tried to pass illegally through the borders of our Republic, as well as 1347 kg sturgeon, 47 kg of sturgeon product, 20 seal skins, seedlings of natural flower, and different exotic plant species were handed to proper customs structures holding as a breach of law.

Generally, Azerbaijan State Customs Committee in accordance with the requirements of Convention on “International trade of scarce flora and fauna species” carries out model activity relating protection of human legacy preventing illegal trade and transportation of flora and fauna species that are going to be depleted.



BELGIUM

TASTEFUL ANIMALS AND A HART OF WOOD?

1999: Toxic dioxin had run into the Belgian food chain. Chicken and milk were preventively taken away. Consumers were faced with empty shelves...

10-million sheep, pigs, and cows were slaughtered during the 2001 outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in the UK. Import of British cattle was prohibited...

2003 the bird flu. The Avian influenza virus is chiefly found in birds. However cases of human infection have been reported...

People were more than ever aware of the fact that healthy animals also mean healthy people. Our Centre for Agrarian History thought the time was right to take profit of this awareness and invited museums to build up an exhibition with the theme "Tasteful animals?" to sensitize people even more. As a Museum of Customs & Excise we immediately felt ourselves in an outstanding position to convince our visitors that people and animals need each other to survive.

We targeted on those who are in for a story and those who have time to listen: what about charming grandparents and their youthful grandchildren?

We first invited our visitors in a decorated room where jungle sounds set the mood. The children were allowed to touch all the displayed objects which once belonged to lovely, endangered animals and to ask any question that passed their mind. Afterwards they watched an impressive film, made by our Cites expert, Pol Meuleneire, about endangered animals he found in the luggage of people. Some pictures were rather horrible but even very small children were still eager to listen and watch. At the end we offered them a nice plate with lovely, save snacks made of animal products which were at risk during the crises in recent years.

Still now visitors ask us when we will organize another "tasteful animal" - day. However, nowadays we, as custom officers, put a lot of effort in the struggle to save tropic forests by encouraging the cultivation of diverse woods on honest plantations. Maybe in the near future we will set up an exhibition called "Honest wood, honest gold (a hart of wood). It will be our goal that people will wonder whether it is necessary or not that toys and furniture nowadays are being treated with toxic paint, why we have to fumigate nice wooden pallets to kill the bugs, why we are destroying the rain forest...

Belgian Customs Excise Museum



The bird flu



"How many elephants had to die for this ivory temple?"



Theme next exhibition: "A Wooden Hart"

DENMARK

EASTERN IMPERIAL EAGLE

In 2004, a group of Danish soldiers returned from their mission in Iraq. Along with them, they brought an Imperial Eagle with one leg and with clipped wings in a cage.

The Imperial Eagle is on the appendix 1 - most endangered species. The soldiers had bought the eagle at a local market but did not notice that it could not fly. The price had been high - several monthly salaries for an Iraqi. They kept the eagle, and it became the mascot of the camp. Upon returning to Denmark, they decided to bring along the eagle with the purpose of finding a place (a zoo or a reservation) who would buy it, and who could take care of it. When the soldiers arrived at the airport in Denmark, the customs officers prevented them from bringing the eagle into the country without being held back at the customs office. They were severely reprimanded but did not have to pay a fine, even though it is strictly prohibited to import endangered species.

The eagle was transferred to a Danish zoo, and it still lives there.

**Tora Ribers,
Told- og Skattemuseet, Denmark**



FRANCE

PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED SPECIES AT THE FRENCH CUSTOMS NATIONAL MUSEUM

Protection of endangered species at the French Customs museum is presented in a specific showcase that used to present mainly ivory, thanks to an important collection of Japanese «netsuke». In 2008 a naturalized lion was added to the exhibit to show to which extent animal traffic can get. In November 2010, the ivory showcase was reorganised to present more varied objects, rough or derived, seized by customs : leather items, coral, turtle shell... An impressive black fern trunk (*Cyrtosperma medullaris*) presents a specimen of an endangered plant.

A SPECIAL EVENT ON CITES

The « Festival of Science » is an annual event organised by the Ministry for Research, to promote science museums. The Customs National Museum takes part every year by presenting the scientific aspects of customs (mathematics, statistics, chemistry,...) or of customs officers famous for their scientific contributions (eg Lavoisier). The theme chosen for the 2010 edition was Biodiversity. The museum thus presented the action of customs within the framework of CITES.

Different activities were elaborated under the name «Save my skin! Save my flora!». For the schools, a workshop provided a visit of the museum, followed by a game where through a journey on a planisphere, the scholars were to choose among animals and plants to take as «souvenirs». At the end of their trip, they checked with the education officer if they had done the right choices.

The families were invited to try and distinguish protected species from the others, avoiding traps or false impressions. Information booklets and press reviews were at their disposal. Younger children were introduced to endangered flora and fauna species thanks to origamis, drawings or masks.

Thanks to these educational and fun activities, we believe we've contributed to public's awareness of endangered species and of customs enforcement of CITES.



GERMANY

PROTECTION OF SPECIES IN THE GERMAN CUSTOM MUSEUM

More than 176 countries have signed the Washingtoner Artenschutzabkommen (C.I.T.E.S. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) since it was ratified in 1973.

It's aim is to protect ca. 8.000 species of Fauna and Flora.

German Customs checks the compliance with these with these regulations upon entering Germany.

A tour on the ground floor of the German Customs Museum leads to an area of the exhibition which deals with this topic.

Some specimens of the animals which are threatened by extinction are on display here.

The visitor can see a specimen of a turtle which is threatened by extinction, the tortoiseshell turtle, protected corals, jewellery made of ivory as well as geckos in a glass of spirit.

A number of other exhibits further illustrates this important customs agenda to ensure the compliance with the regulations to protect endangered species.

An important part of customs controls is the control of travellers entering Germany or returning from a holiday trip.

Especially travellers have an important role in the extinction of Fauna and Flora when buying or collecting items in foreign countries-partly in ignorance of the relevant regulations.

A look on the homepage of the „Bundesamt für Naturschutz“ informs the traveller before the journey about the protected species in his country of destination. When importing plants into Germany vermins can be brought into Germany too.

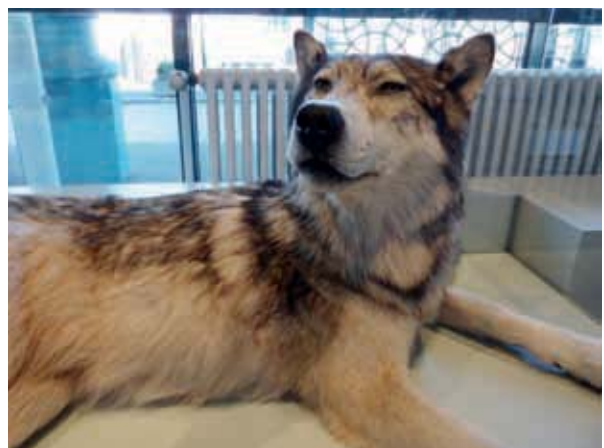
Those are especially insects, mildew.

They threaten the local garden and house plants and the German agriculture and the agricultural products.

Together with the customs declaration a sanitary health certificate is mandatory, plants are being checked for parasites. The checks are often accompanied by the authorities who are competent for the protection of plants.

The tasks of the German customs authorities are shown to the visitors and illustrated by examples.

Detlef Riedel
Deutsches Zollmuseum Hamburg



GREAT BRITAIN

WILDLIFE CRIME AT SEIZED!



At Seized! The Border & Customs Uncovered we have CITES material on display which unveils the impact of wildlife crime.

But why?

The museum is a unique partnership between National Museum Liverpool (NML), UK Border Agency and HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), each of whom have their own strategic values and objectives.

NML

"... believe in the concept of social justice...
... help promote good and active citizenship... act as agents for social change."

UK Border Agency

"... manage border control for the UK, enforcing... Customs regulations [CITES]."

CITES

"To ensure... international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival."

So exploring wildlife crime and environmental issues is important to UK Border Agency, NML, CITES, visitors, and therefore the museum where we can support our partners common goals.

Who are our audience?

In 2009 we welcomed over 280,000 visitors; some came in organised groups, others visited with family and friends. The age range starts with children under 16, and includes older people, local residents, day trippers and tourists.

So how do we meet their needs?

With such a varied visitor base, each with different needs and expectations we try to manage this by providing a range of facilities. The aim is to encourage visitors to think about their actions before they buy an endangered animal.



On gallery

Our largest display case features seized specimens in their natural state, mounted and made in to products. It is divided in to 2 sections.

(1) "Tourist tat". It's easy for tourists to be unaware of the consequences of their actions, so tourist tat is asking visitors to think about buying holiday souvenirs abroad. Is that item you intend to buy made from something that is endangered? Is your innocent purchase encouraging an illegal trade, which will encourage an animal's extinction?

(2) Commercial hunters. Trading in endangered species is a highly profitable business bringing huge commercial benefits, often at the expense of local residents and the eco system. In some cases it is even linked to organised crime.

Handling collection used as inspiration

Our handling collection supports objects on display, allowing visitors to get close to seizures (under close supervision). It's used during events and craft sessions, where it gives a unique insight.

One event called *Dock Watch* has the handling collection on a table supervised by a member of staff or volunteer. This is supported by "üying" a remote operated vehicle (ROV) in the dock looking for wildlife. Our greatest find to date has been a star fish measuring 30cm, who we named George!

During *Model Magic* (a craft session) we invite younger visitors to make an endangered animal out of modelling clay, which they take home afterwards. This encourages people to look, and think, about the animal.

We have added seizures to our website, where we can describe the objects story in detail (eg Lears Macaws).

And in to the future

We are hoping to prepare a temporary exhibition looking more closely at the trade, opening in 2013 (subject to funding).

502 words

Ref: UK magazine article Nov. 2010



HUNGARY

DO NOT BUY IT, PROTECT IT!

CITES in the Museum of the Hungarian Customs and Finance Guard

Hungary joined to the CITES agreement in 1985. Ever since, the Hungarian Customs and Finance Guard has been working hard on the borders to prevent smuggling species of wild animals and plants. Hungary as a transit country receives a large amount of transports day by day. Unfortunately enough, cases of seizure provide with sufficient material to collect and exhibit. However, since these objects are considered corpus delicti, a very few of them can get to the museum. In the permanent exhibition, which only represents the history of the corporation, smuggling goods and methods are not displayed. Moreover, organic matters need special treatment, to which we are not satisfactorily prepared and equipped.

Occasional exhibitions and programs are nevertheless possible and necessary in our museum. Beyond its importance, the subject of CITES and protection of wildlife is rather interesting for visitors, and it can easily motivate children. Therefore our museum is planning to organise a complex program next year, based on

this topic. Smuggled goods and photos, used as warning examples would be displayed in temporary exhibitions. Power-point presentations, customs officers' accounts of their first-hand experiences could inform about the present situation on the borders and the possible punishment for smuggling animals and plants. Visitors could also try the luggage scanner; quizzes, games and handicraft activities would all contribute to make learning a playful experience. The Hungarian website (www.cites.hu) offers useful resources for this purpose: games, comic strips, presentations and teaching aids.

Taking endangered species home from foreign countries and buying products made of them may stem from ignorance. For that reason, informing people about the serious consequences is urgent and indispensable. A museum can do a great deal for increasing public awareness in a playful, entertaining way. Our museum aspires to accomplish all this and hopefully we can give an account of a successful program in the next IACM Newsletter.

Some confiscated „goods”:



LUXEMBOURG



CITES is the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. An international agreement between governments that came into force in 1975, where 35 countries had signed the convention. In 2010 some 175 countries all over the world have signed the convention, but not all of them have yet implemented it. Some countries have weak penal sanctions for CITES infringements and corruption plays a major role.

The CITES is governed by the CITES Secretariat which is based in Geneva and is an UN organization. Every 2-3 years the CITES Secretariat organizes the Conference of the Parties (COP), where all the main decisions for the coming period are taken. The last COP took place in DOHA - Qatar in March 2010.

The first initiatives in order to protect the endangered species of wild flora and fauna were taken between 1960-1970, especially to control the illegal trade with ivory. There the elephants and their ivory were one of the first protected species by CITES.

Many people think that CITES is an animal or plant protection convention, but the main goal of this legal framework is the regulation of the TRADE with the species listed in the appendices of the Convention.

During the first years after the Convention came into force, most of the protected species were exotic animals and plants. However this has changed during the last 15 years. Today more and more common species have to be listed, especially species from fishery. This started in 1998 when nearly all sturgeon species came into Appendix II, and the legal and also illegal trade of caviar is one of the biggest concerns of the Cites Secretariat. Meanwhile a huge number of whales, sharks and seahorses are protected and the trade should be controlled by the CITES parties.

For example in 2010 all trade with wild harvested caviar is suspended.



One of the main topics of COP 15 in March 2010 in Doha was the listing of the Atlantic bluefin tuna (*Thunnus thynnus*). The Atlantic bluefin tuna has been the foundation of one of the world's most lucrative commercial fisheries, so that due to an extreme overfishing, stocks are declining dramatically, by 72% in the Eastern Atlantic and by 82% in the Western Atlantic. On October 16th 2009, Monaco formally recommended the highly endangered Atlantic bluefin tuna for an Appendix I CITES listing and an international trade ban. The discussions about that topic were very fervent and had an important political and economic background. Finally the ban proposal was rejected and the blue bluefin tuna was not CITES listed.

What is Wildlife trade ?

- Wildlife trade is the consumptive use by people of wild animals and plants and their parts and derivatives
- It is diverse and involves hundreds of millions of wild plants and animals every year
- Can have significant impact on biodiversity and lead to the depletion of natural resources, yet it provides income for many people and can be an incentive for the conservation of nature

Where illegal trade can operate?

- Import and export in travelers luggage
- Exhibitions, shows and trade fairs
- Internet
- Newspapers and notice boards
- Chinese supermarkets pharmacies
- Pet shops, garden centers
- Specialist groups/clubs
- Specialist magazines
- Residential premises

CUSTOMS and CITES

Without the involvement of customs authorities world-wide, CITES cannot achieve its objective of protecting endangered species. CITES, overseen by the United Nations Environment Program, works hand-in-hand with the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and other law enforcement agencies like Europol, Interpol and the European Commission.

By their nature, Customs authorities are very well placed to detect the illegal movement of goods from one country to another.



NETHERLANDS

LIFESTYLE HAS ITS PRICE - CUSTOMS NOW CITES EXHIBITION IN ROTTERDAM

From 29 May to 9 November 2008, the Rotterdam Tax & Customs Museum organised an exhibition on the darker side of lifestyle. Animals are killed, species destroyed, workers (children) are exploited just for you to wear your 'designer' outfits or python boots. You do not suffer personally when you fill your home with natural artefacts like shells, ivory sculptures or when you watch pirated editions of the latest films. Others perhaps do.

We confronted visitors with the facts without any value judgements. We showed them how seductively products are shown without telling customers the other side of the story. In the exhibition, this was done in a symbolic way with one-way mirrors. Objects were shown in an airport shop with alluring lighting in mirrored showcases. On the reverse side of the mirrors were texts about exploitation, pollution, the extinction of species, violations of economic laws, etc.

Our visitors were pleasantly surprised and we had good press coverage. Although we did not achieve our goal of expanding our market share among a younger audience, some 20,000 people did visit the exhibition.



PORTUGAL

ILLICIT - SEIZED OBJECTS

Temporary Exhibition
Transport and Communications Museum
Porto New Customs House building
Portugal

The Transport and Communications Museum presented a temporary exhibition entitled «Illicit - Seized Objects» highlighting the role of contemporary customs activity embodied in the fight against illicit drugs and animal and plant species in danger of extinction.

The project's main aim was to deepen the issues raised in it, but now integrated in current contexts and relevant to various audiences.

Today, the traditional role of Customs is faced with multiple challenges of the global world and the complex web of economic relations on a global scale. The performance of the Direcção-Geral das Alfândegas e dos Impostos Especiais sobre o Consumo (CUSTOMS & EXCISE GENERAL DIRECTION) becomes important in terms of health and environment, acting actively in combating drugs and protected species traffic (under the CITES agreement), in close cooperation with the Polícia Judiciária (Portuguese Criminal Police) and the Instituto de Conservação da Natureza e da Biodiversidade (Nature Conservation & Biodiversity).

In this context, the role of the museum was to alert for attacks against human life and nature, looking for, in a pedagogical and prophylactic way, to combat illicit traffic. From the many objects on display (pair of shoes, toys, ivory, coral...) it was possible to verify the complex situations of camouflage in which the authorities are facing. As a framing it was prepared an original environment of an airport terminal, where a metal detector for "passengers" walk through and X-ray machines used to scan hand baggage, in full operation, helped contextualize the theme of a space frontier.

The Museum, once more, accomplish its social vocation, when, in a creative and educational issue, shows this actual theme and warns everyone that the customs control actions are essential to combat the illicit traffic that puts in danger human life and equilibrium of ecosystems.



Illicit - Seized Objects
Collection of artefacts used for drugs traffic

© AMTC



Illicit - Seized Objects
Corals and ivories collection

© AMTC



Illicit - Seized Objects
Artefacts in snakeskin
Stuffed animals

© AMTC

CZECH REPUBLIC

CITES IN CZECH CUSTOMS MUSEUM

The Czech Customs Administration performs its duties regarding the protection of endangered species of fauna and flora according to the Washington CITES Convention concluded in 1973 in Washington, United States. The Czech Republic signed the CITES Convention on 1 January 1993. Priority of the Czech Customs Museum is mainly history of customs of the Czech State starting around the 10th century, however we are trying to show wide public also current work and duties of our customs officers and that's why we included some significant CITES seizures into our Museum collection.

The historical display offers modest, but untraditional view of recent seizures of CITES items carried out by our Customs officers. Among displayed objects in our Museum there are for instance two prepared alligator heads, wallet made from python, prepared lizard, cobra in jar, various types of corals, lady's handbag made from crocodile, belt from crocodile, parrot, quill of porcupine, prepared wolf's head including its skin and many others.

After the Customs Authorities seize goods suspicious of infringing the CITES Convention they cooperate with the Ministry of Environment. If the goods are seized they are then offered to various state institutions. Due to this system we are able to expand our display of endangered species. However, we firmly hope that illegal business with this commodity will one day be just a part of our history.



USA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

U.S. Customs and Border Protection inaugurates its History Program



Visit our 14th Street Lobby Gallery!

NO FAKING! EXHIBIT

Would
you brush
with
?

Discover how CBP stops fakes and fakers from breaching U.S. borders, damaging trade, and endangering the health and well-being of U.S. citizens.
Admission is free. Open Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m.



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

The U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) created its History Program in 2009 to research and analyze CBP history for the education of employees, managers, decision-makers and the general public. The Program's methods are to disseminate information through scholarship, exhibitions, publications, outreach and educational activities.

The inaugural year of the Program was marked by assembling a professional staff consisting of a chief historian, two staff curators, and a historic preservation specialist. Throughout the year, the staff began gathering information and disseminating it to the general public. The staff developed a timeline of significant events relating to customs, immigration, and border protection that is published on the CBP website. In addition, the staff began researching and posting on the website a monthly "Did You Know" entry that reveal a little known aspect of CBP history. These entries quickly became the most accessed item on the CBP website.

The History Program also developed an exhibition titled "No Faking! U.S. Customs and Border Protection Safeguards the Nation." Through a combination of artifacts, photographs, and text, the exhibition fosters an awareness of the investigatory and regulatory

processes across Cap's vast operational areas. It illustrates how CBP interdicts fakes, fakers, and regulatory practices that may harm national security, individuals, and the economy. It demonstrates how CBP prevents pests and diseases from entering the food supply, protects consumers from counterfeit and potentially harmful products, and prevents illegal border crossing. The exhibition also places these activities in historical perspective.

The exhibition is located in the Ronald Reagan International Trade Building, adjacent to the CBP headquarters. The Ronald Reagan Building is a major tourist destination in Washington, DC, and the exhibition is accessible to the public free of charge, seven days a week. This exhibition has broadened Americans' understanding of the work of CBP. Most of the general public associate CBP with border security and the exhibition introduce visitors to how CBP touches virtually all aspects of American life and commerce.

The History Program continues to research the history of CBP and the agencies which preceded it. For 2011, the staff is working of a commemoration of the 9/11 tenth year anniversary.

18th Conference of IACM

22nd - 24th September 2010, Luxembourg
SUMMARY

First day

Wednesday 22nd September 2010

The delegates gathered in the lobby of the hotel where they were welcomed by the President of IACM, Mr. Henri Nimax and by the responsible officer of Customs and Excise Museum in Luxembourg, Mr. Jean-Pierre Reuter.

After the distribution of the badges, we traveled by coach to Schengen. Here delegations were welcomed by Ms. Daniela Kneip of the European Centre Schengen.

The commemorative photo was taken near the monument erected at the same dock where, 25 years ago, the Schengen agreements were signed on the riverboat Marie-Astrid.

At the European Centre, Mr. Ernest Moutschen of the European Commission outlined the history of

European institutions and commented the circumstances that led to the signing of the famous agreement in 1985.

Madame Marie-Paule Jungblut, curator of the Museum of Schengen, presented the draft of the new common museum for firefighters, postal, police and Customs and Excise which will be built in the coming years on a former steel industry site in Pétange.

Then the delegates had the opportunity to visit the museum in Schengen and its exhibition.

A cold buffet was provided by the European Commission at the Kochhaus, an old wine house refurbished for such occasions.

Around 11.00 pm the delegations returned to their hotel at Dommeldange.

Second day

Thursday 23rd September 2010

Delegates gathered in the conference room at Park Hotel in Dommeldange.

At 09.00 am, Mr. Henry Nimax, President of IACM, welcomed the delegations, then gave the floor to the Director of Customs and Excise in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Mr. Alain Bellot. Mr. Bellot is also president of the Luxembourgish Customs Museum Association.

In his speech, Mr. Alain Bellot told of the important role of the customs of today. He appealed to respect traditions, and remembered the need to learn from the past. Mr. Bellot wished us a lot of success to our conference.

After the departure of Mr. Bellot, Chairman Henri Nimax presented his report. He excused the Secretary, Mr. Jon Agust Eggertsson, who could not attend this conference for compelling reasons of health.

On behalf of the meeting he wished a speedy recovery to the Secretary.

A book was signed by all delegates and was sent to Mr. Eggertsson.

In his role as secretary, Mr. Eggertsson has been effectively replaced for the duration of the conference by Ms Anne van Puymbroeck.

Mr. Nimax was sad to announce the unexpected resignation of our treasurer, Mr. Frans Fox. The resignation came a few weeks before the start of the 2010 conference.

Acting, Mr. Wim van Es is responsible for presenting the Treasurer's Report.

Mr. Nimax traced the history of the misunderstood and finally aborted design of the postcard. The idea had emerged at a preparatory meeting in march 2010

in Luxembourg by delegates from Norway, Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg.

Thereafter, the implementation of the postcard was opposed by the Dutch.

The postcard will be the subject of a working group.

Mr. Nimax thanked the UK delegation for the organization of the conference in 2009 in Liverpool and for the early realization of the Newsletter.

Different countries could not attend the 2010 conference, for various reasons.

As for country-candidates:

- The lady who should have represented the Swiss could not come for health reasons;
- Mexico has expressed its intention to create a museum of customs and requests advice for the implementation;
- Poland and Russia had first contacts each, then they didn't call no more;
- Canada it is unclear about their intentions;
- Australia has requested more information about IACM;
- An unknown person in the Himalayas had expressed interest in the conference. Subsequently we have never heard of him again;
- Nigeria had indicated its desire to send a large delegation that wanted to stay at least two weeks in Luxembourg.

Thus the President's report ended.

The treasurer's report, based on data supplied by the resigned treasurer Frans Fox, and presented by Mr. Wim van Es proved incomplete. The presentation of a formal report was postponed to next year.

We can, however, in view of fragments of the report conclude that the financial situation is healthy and positive.

Mr. Roland Giroire argues that the balance sheet of the Treasurer and approval by the assembly is required.

Mr. van Es believes that the data presented should be sufficient.

The Delegation of the United Kingdom suggests that the assessment is established as soon as possible and emailed to all members.

Mr. Michael van Giel was willing to assume the duties of the treasurer on an interim basis for a period of one year, this means: until the next conference.

As for the workshops, Mr. Christian Schaade thinks they are working groups, while the responsibility of taking decisions is up to the General Assembly.

Karen Bradbury believes that the Assembly should make the decision when all members are involved in the issue, while, if only some members are concerned, the workshop could decide to hasten the procedure.

The discussion resumed on the question of members lacking on payment of annual fees. An adaptation of the statute was necessary, particularly with regard to article 2.

After further discussion, the meeting adopted the amendment of Article 2:

Meeting continued its activity at 10.45 am.

In discussing the budget, a list of countries that paid the fee had been circulating in the room. On this list, Portugal was wrongly informed as backward. During the coffee break, Portugal has made, supporting document, proof of payment of annual fee.

Mr. Nimax, on behalf of the committee, apologized to the Portuguese delegation for this blunder.

Mr. Nimax informed the meeting that this year the cost for organizing the conference in Luxembourg will not exceed € 5000, and will even stay significantly below this ceiling.

Karen Bradbury believes that all delegates should stay in the same hotel, so contact between participants is strengthened. The costs for the formal dinner could be either charged to the organizer, or be distributed among participants.

Mr. van Giel argues that it is open to everyone to participate or not in the official dinner, given that dining is not necessarily part of the conference.

Renata Pstrag notes the inclusion of costs of the conference in the hotel bill and noted that the number of delegates including its influence on the price of the conference room.

Mr. Nimax reiterates that it is left up to the host to organize the conference and discuss prices with the hotel. In the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg it is the division of public relations at the Department of Customs and Excise which is responsible for the arrangement with the hotel.

The General Assembly sets a minimum standard that she would like to see available in future conferences, such as conference room, microphones, photocopier, electronic equipment, etc. The minimum standard is voted on and unanimously adopted.

The discussion continues with the cost of the newsletter. The cost of a newsletter in a printed version is 3000€. Mr. Jean-Pierre Reuter shows the Newsletter crafted by the Museum of Liverpool in its light version, available online. He circulated a copy of this newsletter in hard-sided and connected after the ease of the user.

It is proposed that the Newsletter is produced by the host and sent to Luxembourg to be crafted by a designer at the costs of 350€.

Mr. van Giel believes that it is open to the host to choose a local designer if this seems appropriate.

Mr. Schaade is proposing to establish a more or less rigid frame to be completed every year by the respective host.

Are voted on two proposals

- 1) Luxembourg is responsible for the design of the newsletter or
- 2) it is permissible to load the respective host Luxembourg or a local designer for design.

Proposition 2) is adopted 8 votes against 3.

The discussion now turns over the issue of so-called postcard.

Ms. Pstrag does not agree at all the project of the postcard. Mr. Nimax shows a specimen of the postcard of CITES. Contrary to what is suggested in the designation Postcard, this specimen is not intended to be mailed. It is a stylized elephant, formed by the letters C, I, T, E and S, and bearing no other text than the e-mail addresses of Cites.

For the continuation of the project, Ms. Anne-Marieke van Schaik and Mr. van Giel believe that a workshop should be installed.

Mr. Reuter recalls the history of the postcard up from the decision in February 2010 in Luxembourg. He says he has finally stopped all work on the project.

Ms. Pstrag would like to see the postcard including, besides the e-mail, an explanatory text.

Azerbaijan wants to change its data on the Newsletter and adapt it to the circumstances of 2010.

The United Kingdom believes that the web site is a good instrument, and suggested sending all information to be published therein and all amendments there to Jean-Pierre Reuter, who is in charge of updating the site.

At that moment Mrs. Tora Ribers remarked that, at the time of its publication, data from the newsletter were put a few months before, and therefore deserve the qualification of «News». She proposes to change the name of «Newsletter» into that of «ANNUAL REPORT». Denmark's proposal is approved and adopted unanimously.

Mr. Albert Zammit would like to make changes yourself to messages PDF. France opposes with the argument that this is a page IACM.

To return the postcard: a workshop is set up with Dutch, Danish, British, Belgian and French volunteers. The Netherlands takes the Chair of this workshop.

The discussion focuses on future conferences.

The next conference will be organized in 2011 by the Czech Republic in Prague and Pilsen. The Czech hosts offer the following theme: Customs Museums in the Making, with presentation of a relevant contribution by all member countries.

Mr. Schaade would prefer the relationship between the safety of exhibits and the visitors as theme of that conference.

Ms. Bradbury proposes as theme accessibility, safety and conservation of artifacts.

Mr. Jan Hlinka took the floor and argued that because his museum has already set the theme in agreement with Czech governmental and administrative bodies concerned, he is reluctant to accept other proposals. A fundamental change of theme also threatens the funding of the 2011 conference.

Ms. Anne van Puymbroeck asks whether it is necessary to create a workshop to elaborate the

Annual Report, the former Newsletter. CITES is only one theme, while we need various themes.

The proposal for a workshop for preparing the Annual report was adopted by 7 votes to 4 against with 1 abstention. Contributions for the next Annual Report should reach the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg at the latest by 1 December 2010.

We found no volunteers to form a workshop.

Now we looked back over the amendment of the articles.

Ms. Ribers argues that these are countries who are members, not individuals.

Mr. Schaade suggests that «membership is restricted to National Custom, Excise, Tax and Revenue Museums».

«Officials» should be replaced by «organizations».

Belgium noted that the amendment provides access to the IACM United States, but unfortunately also to Taiwan.

The changes are accepted.

As ICOM conference will be taking place only in a few months, ICOM- report will be introduced only next year.

Upcoming conferences:

In 2011 the conference will be held in the Czech Republic, including Prague and Pilsen (Plzen). The reception is scheduled for 21 September 2011, the General Assembly and the museum in Pilsen are fixed to 22 September, while September 23 is reserved for the conference and a visit to Prague.

The final program will reach us in late October 2010.

The topic of the conference is: «Museum Security».

Finland will host the conference in 2012, probably in Helsinki. The Museum of Finnish Customs is located in an abandoned fortress on an island off Helsinki and is accessible only by ferryboat. There is no possibility of accommodation on the island.

Azerbaijan proposes to organize the conference in 2013 in Baku.

France would like to host the conference in 2014.

Denmark would like to organize the conference in 2015.

Azerbaijan addressed the meeting and presents his museum in Baku. Gifts are distributed to all delegates.

On behalf of the General Assembly, Mr. Nimax thanked the delegation of Azerbaijan for their generosity.

The meeting is closed.

The program for the afternoon includes:

- 1) the coach tour to the Kirchberg plateau and to Luxembourg City;
- 2) a guided tour in the Historical Museum of the City of Luxembourg
- 3) the formal dinner, with speeches by the President of IACM, Mr. Nimax and the President of the ASBL Customs and Excise Museum, Mr. Alain Bellot

Third day

Friday 24th September 2010

The program begins with the presentation of CITES by Mr Daniel Koener, a member of the association of Customs and Excise Museum and expert on CITES. His presentation with Power Point show support includes the history of the Washington Convention on the protection of wild fauna and flora, nomenclature, content of the agreement and all legislative and legal practices of traffics and abuse.

Mr. Nimax thanks Mr Koener for his presentation.

The Portuguese delegation, Ms Mafalda Pereira Pinheiro and Ms Maria Isabel Rodrigues Tavares presents a power point show about their museum in the Alfândega building in Oporto, and show objects seized under CITES legacy.

The museum exhibition of Porto includes both schools and the general public and casual visitors.

Mr Jan Hlinka shows us a very interesting film on CITES in Czech Republic, including the training and the work of specialist sniffer dogs in detecting defrauded objects of wildlife.

After the coffee break, the ladies Karen Bradbury and Sarah Han present a power point show on the activities of their museum in the Washington Convention since 1995 and focuses on the educational part of the Museum of Liverpool while concerned in CITES.

Follow the debates on the issues introduced by different countries by email.

- 1) Portugal asks how to use more effectively the exhibits in the museum in order to stimulate visitor interest
Here the United Kingdom proposes to reverse the issue of visitors in a museum in the direct and indirect taxation, and that is why pay taxes?
We should ask visitors: What would happen if no one of us would pay more taxes? Than show the consequences for the nation and the community.
The United States, France, Germany and Belgium suggest leaving the museum, for example to work with police, firefighters, civil defense and others, and to organize open doors.
- 2) Hungary has to celebrate the 80th birthday of her museum. She asked for suggestions for organizing such a festival.
The meeting proposed that whoever ideas can send them by email to Hungarian colleagues.

- 3) Denmark renounces to repeat her question.

Ms. Tora Ribers believes the question is being formulated in a too üuffy manner. The issue will be published later in a more accurate on website.

- 4) Finland asked how to establish the precedence of the exhibits in his museum, and general concern about the survival of his museum.

Renata Pstrag would like all museums clustered in the IACM establish an inventory of their respective museums, including adopting the management, staff, visitors, and self-definition, or the legitimacy that the museum has attributed to itself.

Roland Giroire is collaborating right now with a town in northern France which in 2013 organizes the celebrations to mark the 300th anniversary of the Treaty of Utrecht.

For the occasion, they are now building up an inventory of the customs system at the border until 19993, with its staff, buildings, fences and road signs and border terminals.

Mr. Giroire thinks it would be a good idea to establish such an inventory for other boundaries between other member states of the IACM.

Mr. Giroire announces the release in 2011, a film by Dany Boon, on the subject of a forced collaboration with a francophobic Belgian customs official and a belgophobic French custom officer in a multinational brigade formed after the fateful year of 1993.

Note that the Museum of Bordeaux has provided equipment for this movie. Mr. Giroire urges us not to miss this film work that appeared under the title.

«Anything to declare? “

Mr. Bob Murtagh tells us the next opening of the Museum of Customs of the United States.

He believes that this museum will favorably coexist with the Immigration Museum and Museum on border control (border control).

Mr. Murtagh invites us to participate in the festivities to mark the centenary of the Custom House in San Francisco.

Azerbaijan shows a film about his museum in Baku and its promotional activities abroad. This film is an updated version of the film shown last year at the conference in Liverpool.

Thus ends the 18th Conference of IACM in the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.



IMPRESSIONS

18th Conference of IACM

22nd - 24th September 2010, Luxembourg





DELEGATES AND GUESTS OF IACM 2010



GET IN TOUCH WITH US AT IACM

CONTACT DETAILS BELOW

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International Association of Customs Museums



www.customsmuseums.org



Hats Off Invitation To our Museums



- ◆ The aim of the International Association of Customs/Taxation Museums is to preserve and maintain the rich heritage of Customs and Taxation in a world that is changing very rapidly.
- ◆ Over the last twenty years, we have seen enormous changes in the work of Customs/Taxation officials, particularly those of us in the European Union. While we welcome the benefits of these changes, we must remember and celebrate the past. It is important that future generations have some knowledge of the foundations laid down by those who have gone before us.
- ◆ To this end, the IACM was formed in 1993 in Denmark. Today it has 21 member countries and each museum operates under its own national administration. Membership is not confined to the European Union.
- ◆ We invite you to visit one of our museums. See our website at www.customsmuseums.org for further information and a tour of some of the exciting objects from Customs and Taxes past.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CUSTOMS MUSEUMS (IACM)

ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONALE DES MUSEES DES DOUANES

STATUTES AND RULES

Ratified at the IACM Conference, Rotterdam, September, 1996.

Statutes

Article 1. Name

- 1 There shall be an Association having as its title the International Association of Customs Museums (IACM).

Article 2. Definitions

- 2.1 "Customs Museums" means museums, collections and permanent institutions of Customs, Excise and Taxation, associated with the relevant national authorities.
- 2.2 «Member Country» means a country having a customs museum which is a member of IACM.

Article 3 Aims and Objectives

- 3.1 The aims and objectives of IACM shall be:
 - i. to recognise and promote the considerable benefits accruing from the collection, preservation, documentation and display of customs artefacts. Benefits incl:
gaining public support for the present day work of customs departments, in particular their role in protecting society;
raising public awareness of the rich and exciting history of customs departments: and,
fostering a greater understanding and sense of belonging amongst staff.
 - ii. to establish, maintain and promote a network of customs museums. This shall include the identification, study, collection, preservation, and exhibition of relevant objects and material. Such acts may include joint exhibitions and the exchange, distribution and loan of publications and artefacts and other forms of co-operation.
 - iii. to hold meetings, conferences and general assemblies for the consideration and discussion of the matters identified in and above and of the Statutes and Rules.
 - iv. to establish links with appropriate organisations.
 - v. to improve professional standards and encourage research in relation to matters in and above

Article 4. Membership and voting rights

- 4.1 Membership of IACM shall be open to Customs Museums and Member Countries as defined in Article 2.

- 4.2 Only member countries may vote at meetings, conferences and general assemblies and each member country shall have one vote.

- 4.3 A member country or its customs museums who have attended one or more conferences of the Association of International Customs Museums prior to 1996, shall automatically become a member of IACM, unless they opt to the contrary.

Article 5. Working language

- 5.1 The working languages of IACM shall be English and French. A member country who hosts an IACM meeting, conference or general assembly, may opt to use an additional language for that occasion.
- 5.2 If for a host country it is not possible for any reason whatever to provide a translation into the two official working languages it may, the agreement of the IACM presupposed, opt for one working language, this would be English only. This request is to be submitted at the occasion of the previous General Assembly.

Article 6. Officers

- 6.1 The Officers of IACM shall consist of a President, a Treasurer, a Secretary and a Conference Secretary.
- 6.2 The President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer shall be designated at a General Assembly and shall serve for a term covering the next three general assemblies.
- 6.3 The Conference Secretary shall be a person from the member country hosting the next Conference.

Article 7. Address

- 7.1 The IACM shall reside where its President has his/her office or the secretary's address.

Article 8. Conference

- 8.1 The venue and timing of the next Conference shall be decided by the General Assembly.
- 8.2 The Conference shall be chaired by the Conference Secretary, or a person appointed by him/her.
- 8.3 The Conference may appoint Working Groups to progress certain matters and report back at agreed times.

Article 9. General Assembly

- 9.1 The General Assembly shall be held annually and shall be chaired by the President.
- 9.2 Only the General Assembly shall be empowered to adopt any amendment to the Statutes and to the Rules.
- 9.3 A quorum for the General Assembly shall be 50% of member countries.
- 9.4 The President shall have the right to order business to obtain maximum consensus.
- 9.5 The President shall give each General Assembly an oral or written report of IACM proceedings since the last report.
- 9.6 The Treasurer shall present a report on IACM finances to the General Assembly.

Article 10. Rules, responsibilities and records

- 10.1 The practical application of the Statutes shall be determined by Rules adopted by the General Assembly.
- 10.2 Any property of the IACM shall be the responsibility of the President.
- 10.3 IACM has no legal status and it is not responsible for the actions of its members.
- 10.4 The President shall be responsible for all IACM matters including the keeping and availability of its non-financial record except for the organisation and running of the Conference and IACM finances.
- 10.5 The Treasurer shall be responsible for opening a bank account in the name of IACM. The Treasurer and President shall be signatories to the account.
- 10.6 The Treasurer shall keep the accounts of IACM under the supervision of the President and shall be responsible for ensuring that they are audited by an independent accountant.
- 10.7 The President may recommend that the General Assembly recognises the services of individuals in promoting the works and aims of IACM.

Article 11. Finance

- 11.1 The member country hosting the Conference may share the costs of so doing between all participating member countries.
- 11.2 The costs of the Presidency shall be borne by the member country where the President resides.
- 11.3 All other costs shall be the responsibility of the member country which incurred them.

Article 12. Amendment of the Statutes and Rules and other matters

- 12.1 Resolutions concerning amendments of the Statutes shall require a 2/3rds majority of member countries. Such amendments must be submitted to all member countries at least two months prior to the General Assembly.
- 12.2 Resolutions concerning amendments to the Rules shall require a 2/3rds majority of votes cast by member countries present at the General Assembly.
- 12.3 Other proposals to be decided by vote shall be decided by simple majority of member countries present.

Article 13. Dissolution of IACM

- 13.1 The decision by the General Assembly to dissolve the IACM shall require a 3/4 majority of member countries. If IACM comes to be thus dissolved, any assets which it possesses at that time shall be disposed of as the General Assembly sees fit.

Article 14. Interpretation

- 14.1 Any dispute as to the interpretation of these Statutes and Rules shall be made in writing to the President who shall place the matter before the next General Assembly.

Rules

1. Membership

2. Officers

Article 6

In the event of a country having the presidency ceasing to be a member of IACM, the member country next hosting the Conference shall appoint an acting President until the next General Assembly is held.

If a President stands for re-election, a person appointed by the General Assembly shall chair the election proceedings.

The outgoing President shall transfer all non-financial records relating to IACM to the incoming President.

3. Conference

Article 8

The Conference Secretary shall circulate to all member countries a resume of Conference and General Assembly proceedings within 2 months of the end of Conference.

Participation in Working Groups shall be voluntary.

At least two member countries shall be represented in a Working Group.

A Working Group may elect its own Chairman who shall be responsible for reporting back to Conference.

4. General Assembly

Article 9

The General Assembly shall normally be held immediately following a Conference.

5. Finance

Article 11

Where Conference costs are shared between participating member countries, the amount borne by each country shall be in proportion to the number of its members attending.

The annual contribution should be paid before the annual conference of the year.

6. Amendment of the Statutes and Rules and other matters

Article 12

"Present" includes physical presence and proxy provided that the latter is given authorisation in writing.

Where there is parity in voting the President shall have the casting vote.

Next IACM conference and general assembly in Prague.

The next conference will take place from 21st to 23rd of September 2011 in the beautiful city of Prague in the Czech Republic.

The accommodation will be in Prague at about 30 minutes by tram / subway from the center.

On 21st of September will be probably a welcome dinner.

The meeting will be held at the Customs Headquarters on 22nd of September morning and after lunch, we will leave by bus to the city of Pilsen, where the Czech customs museum is located.

The city of Pilsen is about 100 km from Prague.

After the visit of the museum, the bus will go back to Prague in the evening.

On 23rd of September, the meeting will continue in Prague at the Customs Headquarters and will finish for lunch.

For the afternoon, a sightseeing visit of Prague is foreseen.

More details will come soon.





MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
GRAND DUKE JEAN (MUDAM)

NATIONAL MUSEUM
OF HISTORY AND ART

The city and its museums

