

GREEN CUSTOMS INITIATIVE WORKSHOP IN THE CAUCASUS

25-28 OCTOBER 2005 – TBILISI, GEORGIA

ORGANIZED BY

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME,
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (DTIE)
Division of Environmental Conventions (DEC)**

IN COOPERATION WITH

The Ministry of Environment of Georgia

WITH SUPPORT FROM

**The Government of Norway
ORGANISATION FOR THE PROHIBITION OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS (OPCW)**



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1 BACKGROUND

Environmental crime is a big and increasingly lucrative business – a multi-billion dollar global enterprise. Illegal international trade in “environmentally-sensitive” commodities such as Ozone Depleting Substances (ODSs), toxic chemicals, hazardous wastes and endangered species is an international problem with serious consequences: it directly threatens human health and the environment, contributes to species loss, and results in revenue loss for governments.

Another serious effect of illegal trade in environmentally sensitive commodities is that it also seriously undermines the effectiveness of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) by circumventing rules and procedures agreed in international treaties.

National and international regimes for integrated chemical management rely on customs to monitor and control flows of regulated chemicals at borders¹. International agreements related to chemical management often restrict the national supply and demand of specific chemicals and some set incentives for phase out of the most harmful substances. If illegal trade in these chemicals occurs, the incentives set by the MEAs for control and phase out of chemicals are considerably weakened. In those countries, which have the appropriate laws or policies already in place, the national customs authorities must have the capacity to monitor and control the flow of chemicals and goods covered by MEAs.

However, customs agencies operating in isolation are not sufficient. At the national level, customs is but one element of a “compliance and enforcement chain” that includes:

- Clear and enforceable legislation,
- Authority equipped with an institutional set up (skilled experts in this field) for MEA implementation,
- Monitoring detection and seizure of illegal shipments by customs agencies,
- Prosecution of criminal cases involving such shipments by prosecuting attorneys,
- Appropriate sentencing by the judiciary.

Stakeholders will face difficulties in phasing out their consumption of environmentally sensitive commodities, without;

- Enacting of enforceable legislations,
- Competent authorities who update them about obligations of MEAs and provide customs authorities with proper technical and policy advice,
- Effective detection and seizure by customs,
- Deterrent punishment to those who have attempted to abuse the legislations.

All five individual links in this chain must be strong in order to achieve our goal of phasing out consumption of environmentally sensitive commodities and to succeed as a whole. In many developing countries these key players suffer from either weakness or lack linkages amongst themselves (for example; without enacting enforceable legislations, lack of training of customs officers, legal advisors etc.). As a result this

¹ This also applies to international regimes protecting endangered species.

encourages illegal trade that is difficult to control, which in turn makes it difficult to be in compliance with these MEAs.

The Green Customs Initiative aims at strengthening compliance and enforcement of MEAs through integrated capacity building for customs officers within the MEA enforcement chain. It plans to provide customs officers with training that covers several MEAs at the same time, making it more efficient than separate training on individual agreements.

2 OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

The main aim of this meeting, organized by UNEP (DTIE & DEC) in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment of Georgia, and with support provided by the Government of Norway and OPCW, was to gather the key stakeholders (customs officers, customs training institutes, MEA national focal points) of MEAs from countries in the Caucasus region to enable them to familiarize themselves with the MEAs (Montreal Protocol, Rotterdam, Stockholm, Basel, CITES and the Convention for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons) and discuss face-to-face the concerned issues, as well as to identify the role of each stakeholder in order to facilitate achieving compliance with the relevant MEAs.

The workshop thus aimed at:

- Creating awareness amongst customs officers on their role in enforcing MEAs
- Presenting the trade aspects of each of these MEAs and the impact on customs officers
- Presenting the existing international setting for MEA enforcement (including MEA secretariats)
- Highlighting interlinkages and possible synergies in enforcement of the various MEAs
- Encouraging bilateral and regional dialogues on trade practices related to MEAs
- Presenting available resources for customs administration on MEA enforcement issues, particularly amongst international organizations involved in these issues
- Testing the Green Customs Training Guide being developed by the partners so that it can be adapted to the training needs of the national customs administration
- Encouraging creation of links at the national level between key MEA enforcement stakeholders: customs officers, customs training institutes, MEA national focal points, judges, prosecutors
- Discussing possibilities and relevance of expanding the training to focus also on judges and prosecutors in the next phase of work
- Preparing a second phase in which the generic training guide will be adapted to national training needs.

3 PARTNERS

International Partners

The following international organizations participated in the workshop:

- Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
- The World Customs Organization's (WCO) Regional Intelligence Liaison Office (RILO) - Moscow
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- Divisions of the United Nations Environment Programme
 - Division of Technology, Industry and Economics (UNEP DTIE)
 - Division of Environmental Conventions (UNEP DEC)
- Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) UK
- Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

The Secretariats of the following MEAs were not represented but provided material and guidance for the workshop sessions:

- Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal
- Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
- Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade.
- Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs).

Regional Partners

The following regional organizations participated in the workshop:

- RILO Moscow
- Interpol, Georgia

National Partners

The following national agencies participated in the workshop:

- The Ministry of Environment of Georgia
 - Head of the Air Protection Office
 - National Ozone Unit
 - Department of International Relations and Project Preparations
 - Department of Waste and Chemical Substances Management
 - Legal Department
 - Habitats Conservation Division of Biodiversity Protection
- Customs Department of Georgia
- Ministry of Justice of Georgia, Licensing Department

- Georgian Refrigeration Association
- Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia, Department of Environmental Protection
- Ministry of Nature Protection of Armenia, Department of Hazardous Substances and Wastes Management
- Ministry of Ecology and Natural Resources of the Azerbaijan Republic, Center for Climate Change and Ozone
- State Customs Committee of Azerbaijan Republic, Customs Regimes Control Dept.
- State Customs Committee of Azerbaijan Republic, Central Laboratory
- Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation, Customs Cooperation Department
- Investment Centre of the Ozone Depleting Substances Phase out Projects, Russian Federation
- Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Turkey, Air Management Department
- Directorate General for the EU and External Relations, Turkey
- Directorate General for Customs Enforcement, Turkey

4 METHODOLOGY

The meeting was organized over a period of four days in order to give enough time for all concerned to express their experiences, visions and accomplishments, to discuss with relevant secretariats and agencies, future action plans and also facilitate the enforcement of regional legislations relevant to MEAs, as well as to curb illegal trade on a regional level by cooperating with relevant authorities and organizations.

In order to achieve these objectives, the meeting followed an agenda similar to that used in previous Green Customs workshops, but adapted in consultation with the resource persons and partners (Annex 1).

All presentations and related documents addressed during the meeting were distributed to the participants in both hard copy and soft copy format.

Local media, including television, covered the meeting.

5 PARTICIPANTS

The meeting was inaugurated under the patronage of Mr. Zaal Lomtadze Deputy Minister, The Ministry of Environment of Georgia. The opening ceremony was attended by high-level officials of the Ministry of Environment of Georgia, the Customs Department of Georgia, and the Ministry of Justice of Georgia. After Deputy Minister Lomtadze spoke, other addresses were given by Mr. Jim Curlin, Information Manager, OzonAction Programme, UNEP DTIE, Ms. Charlotte Salpin, Associate Legal Officer, UNEP DEC, and Mr. Mikheil Tushishvili, Head, National Ozone Unit, Ministry of Environment of Georgia.

Five countries in the Region participated in the workshop: Armenia, Azerbaijan Republic, Georgia, Russian Federation and Turkey. Each country was requested to nominate appropriate officers from the Environment Department and Customs Departments.

Resource persons came from the relevant organizations, including the Chemical Weapons Convention (OPCW), World Customs Organization (WCO) RILO Moscow, USEPA, EIA, the Ministry of Environment and Physical Planning of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia - in addition to UNEP.

6 EXPECTED OUTCOME

The workshop aimed at achieving the following:

- Training of customs officers and other national stakeholders leading to a greater awareness of MEA issues, available resources and contacts at national and international levels.
- Synergies created between international, regional and national stakeholders (especially customs) on the implementation of trade regulations of MEAs
- Bilateral, sub-regional and regional dialogues created on combating illegal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities
- Feedback received on Green Customs Manual and integrated for a final result, which could be adapted to national needs.

7 HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSIONS

After making introducing how the United States' agencies cooperate and coordinate on detection, prevention and prosecution of illegal trade in environmentally-sensitive commodities, Mr Emory presented an overview of the duties of Environment Officers, Customs Officers and Compliance Officers. Key points from the ensuing discussion included:

- Usually no tariffs to collect from many controlled products under MEAs. Customs agencies are often not interested in enforcing MEAs if there is no tariffs to collect.
- Also problem between Agencies – some pesticide issues covered by Ministry of Agriculture.
- MEA negotiators often are not involved in the implementation of the actual enforcement work.
- Customs officers would like to contact only one entity and one office, not multiple offices.
- Suggestion that the designated national authority (the competent authority selected for implementation of the MEA, usually the Ministry of Environment) should establish one integrated working office (e.g. import/export control unit) that have working level case workers and compliance officers who can work with the Customs ministry.
- Importance of controlling both imports and exports, as exports are also regulated under certain MEAs.
- Customs officers are usually more concerned with imports, and environment officers often concerned with exports. This is because many environmental agreements are designed to protect other countries. Customs officers may need to redirect their effort to focus on exports.
- Issues to consider for shipment documentation
- Import/export control office need for skilled staff, good communication protocols and working relationship between Customs and DNA, and databases.
- The need to make “passports” for chemicals – barcodes, linked to central database that is cross-referenced to information on environmental issues.

- How shipment of chemicals differs from inspection of people
- Need for inter-agency coordination and protocols to agree when inspection is needed, how much inspection is needed, who is to do it.
- Need for special teams from the Environment Agency that can handle such inspections.
- Improving the exchange of information between customs services in terms of container security
- Early warning of controlled goods going to other countries.
- UNEP facilitation of informal networks between Ozone Officers and Customs Officers in South Asia region which has resulted in an informal “prior informed consent” type procedure for ODS and products containing ODS.

Ms. Hakobyan presented an overview of the Implementation of Rotterdam, Stockholm and Basel Conventions in Armenia. Key points included:

- Basel: the national law on wastes was adopted in 2004 by national assembly to implement Basel Convention. The Government also adopted normative acts and decrees adopted to severely restrict or ban chemicals or limit their trade. Working group have been established to regulate chemicals.
- Rotterdam: to implement this convention, an interagency committee comprising the Ministry of Health, Ecology and Agriculture was established. It has endorsed a list of chemical and biological chemicals allowed/not to be allowed to be used in the country (i.e. those not banned or restricted). 33 chemicals and pesticides have been banned (asbestos was permitted for continued use). The Customs Service work is guided by these lists. No financial support is received from external financial mechanisms.
- Stockholm: The country ratified the Convention in 2003 and is carrying out a national programme and inventory of waste and hazardous chemicals. They have already destroyed an outdated pesticide. Within this framework, the country has conducted monitoring and research. There are still issues of how to control pesticides, especially illegal imports of banned pesticides. The National Implementation Plan (NIP) has been endorsed by Parliament. One activity is to improve legislation and strengthen government to improve management of these conventions. The country has received financial support to develop the NIP.

Ms Salpin introduced the CITES session. The ensuing discussions of the participants included:

- What to do with seized animals and plants as it requires a lot of resources at the national level.
- CITES’s recommendations regarding establishment of specialized centres to take animals and the need for financial resources for such centres. The use of zoos, veterinary services, sanitary services, institutes of biology/zoology or circuses was discussed.
- The role of NGOs and scientific institutes to implement CITES
- The need for special bodies to work with customs officers to identify all of the types of endangered species, since it is not reasonable to expect rank and file customs officers to do this.
- Penalties for violating CITES.
- RILO Moscow’s role in issuing specialised bulletins in Russian and English about fines and penalties levied for CITES violations.
- Need for good cooperation between customs and judiciary, and between prosecutors and customs officers.

- Violations of legislation, administrative or criminal codes within the framework of different conventions.
- Cooperation between customs agencies in CIS countries

Mr Sulkhani Suladze, Head of Georgian Refrigeration Association, presented the case of the discovery of counterfeit HFC-134a in the market in Georgia. A technician demonstrated the use of a refrigerant identifier to analyse the contents of the cylinder. Using an unopened cylinder provided by the merchant, they tested it for the first time in front of the workshop participants. Highlights from the presentation included:

- Most CFC-12 was imported from the Russian Federation in multiuse containers.
- Georgia used Neutronics portable refrigerant identifiers that can detect R-12, R-22, R-134a, and which can also identify percentages of propane, butane CO₂, oxygen.
- Georgia has refrigerant identifiers at 8 terminal checkpoints, trained customs officers, and developed short pocket guidebook for customs officers (available in Georgian and English).
- Using this equipment, they determined that this was a falsified cylinder that was made in a Chinese factory. The packaging was also mislabelled. It is not HFC-134a but 100% R-12. A local person bought it at high price thought that he was buying HFC-134a.

Points from the discussion included:

- Deciding what to do with the substances that were confiscated.
- The need to provide proper equipment to customs officers to enable them to detect illegal/counterfeit goods.

Dr. Ezra Clark presented EIA's work in the the area of combating illegal trade in ozone depleting substances. He presented the UNEP-EIA-Sweden video "Combating the Illegal Trade in Ozone Depleting Substances – A Guide for Enforcement Officers" and handed out the accompanying fact sheets to all participants. The ensuing discussion included:

- EIA's provision of information to RILOs which has been used for RILO bulletins.
- EIA's observations on the shortcomings of licensing systems under the Montreal Protocol related to the lack of sharing of information between Parties.
- The Ozone Secretariat's ongoing study of the establishment of a global ODS tracking system.
- Indicators of illegal trade
- Availability and alternatives – requires proactive cross-checking
- Companies new to the trade
- Price discrepancies
- Industry intelligence
- Import/export data discrepancies.

Mr Kocov presented the Stockholm Convention The presentation included descriptions and photos of health impacts of POPs which was particularly useful in emphasising the importance and impact of this MEA. Points from his presentation included:

- The 12 controlled persistent organic pollutants include pesticides, industrial chemicals and unintended by products.
- DDT has been sprayed for lice control in the Balkan countries.
- There are numerous trade names of PCBs. PCBs can be found in transformer oil, capacitors for fluorescent lights, creasote on wooden poles/railway ties, paint, etc.

- Dioxins/furans are unintentional by products created from burning medical wastes, municipal wastes
- PCBs can be solved – one time. Dioxins/furans are more difficult to address.
- There are funds available for preparation of National Implementation Plans from GEF for countries that are signatory.
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia received assistance from Switzerland for removal and destruction of PCBs.

Dr. Kenneth Penman presented the Chemical Weapons Convention. No participants had any prior knowledge of the CWC, with the exception of the representative of the Azerbaijan Customs Service, which had participated in OPCW training in the Hague. Key points from the ensuing discussion included:

- OPCW's provision of assistance to countries to help them develop their national legislation.
- The need for the entire compliance and enforcement chain to be involved in the development of the CWC legislation.
- The penalties for non-compliance by States Parties.
- Role of customs under the CWC
- Importance of close working cooperation between the National Authority, customs and industry.
- Information evaluation process includes data monitoring by OPCW and can be supplemented by on-site evaluation.
- Customs related difficulties, including:
 - Absence of customs borders in free trade areas – they are not tracked as imports.
 - Use of HS without the recommended measures to track scheduled chemicals
 - Identification of chemicals - Trade Names (only 40-50 chemicals of concern are regularly traded)
 - Mixtures of 2 scheduled chemicals declared as one or two chemicals
 - No definition within CWC for “export/import”
 - Customs statistics are not reliable (cannot identify all chemicals with the 6-digit HS code, mixtures are not well defined in HS codes, customs agents are not chemical expert)
- Problems posed by ports and free zones for accounting for import/export, and the absence of a consistent way for customs to report transit of materials through those facilities.
- Tools for identification of scheduled chemicals, including the Handbook of chemicals and the Central Analytical Database (for customs laboratories).
- Suggestion that OPCW consider developing an automated database that has detailed information by HS codes (CWC primarily uses CAS codes. Customs works with HS codes and not CAS codes). Customs would like simplified Identification of goods as they cross borders.
- The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's experience with finding other controlled/dangerous chemicals during their POPs survey when they were searching for DDT (they found methyl bromide and Zyklon B used in gas chambers during WWII) illustrating the many benefits of the POPs surveys
- Suggestion of tools to help customs officers identify controlled items, including: an Encyclopaedia of Chemicals, good software that could be used in laptop or pocket computer.
- The need for unified database for chemical and waste issues for customs officers, the institutional issues of cooperation between MEAs that may need to be

overcome, and the need for countries to work through their MOPs/COPs to encourage these kinds of synergies between MEAs.

- Difficulty in unifying customs requirements under MEAs because each country is different. Training for customs officers is most important on the meaning of each MEA.
- Need to include all MEAs in the curriculum of customs training academies, the difficulty to introduce permanent training programme into customs by the Government alone and problems with rotation of customs officers.
- Constraints of MEA Secretariats regarding what they can and cannot do as per the MEA and the Decisions of the COPs/MOPs.
- The main challenges of customs officers, including lack of equipment to identify the goods (pocket computers, identifiers); training of customs staff; information database about chemicals; absence of legislation to implement the MEA.
- The need to have equipment on the ground since customs laboratories are quite a distance from the entry points.

During the working group discussions, the issues of transit and trans-shipment and implementation of MEAs in free trade zones was central. The following points were discussed:

- Recommendation that participants read WCO's definition of transits and free zones (foreign trade zones) on their web site.
- The legal problem of MEAs not saying much about how to handle transits, which is moving without import or export, and the need for agreed guidelines within each MEA on how to treat transit and trans-shipment.
- Definitions of transit in national legislation
- Basel Convention's treatment of trans-shipment of banned waste.
- Montreal Protocol's lack of explicit reference to transshipment and lack of controls of free trade zones or transit.

Mr Mammadov presented the Regional Centre for Training of Customs Officers in Azerbaijan under the aegis of WCO, and its role in promoting regional cooperation on MEA issues. Highlights included:

- Russian and Turkey Customs Agencies work with Azerbaijan Customs as part of bilateral agreements.
- Cooperation within the CIS region on legal assistance
- Provision of information about implemented/exported goods
- Exchange of information on customs crimes in the CIS region within the RILO network.
- Last workshop at this centre was organised by IAEA on radioactive and nuclear substances, all of the countries from this region participated. It also held a regional conference with RILO at this centre. They welcome the opportunity to have a regional training of customs officers on environmental issues such as MEAs. They had a workshop this summer on electronic customs systems.
- UNEP should take the initiative to address the MEA Secretariats that deal with transshipment of chemical substances and goods containing these substances to find out if they are interested in training customs officers from this region or all CIS region. The WCO should be involved to cooperate on this. The problem of personnel changeover is real and permanent training is needed.
- Within the framework of WCO's enforcement work, RILO could issue bulletins on implementation of MEAs.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE GREEN CUSTOMS TRAINING GUIDE

For the Guide, the participants made the following individual recommendations:

- Make the document easy to be understood by all.
- Customs officers are interested in the practical side, not when it was signed. Different customs officers have different training and skills. After 2-3 months training the customs officer can start professional activities. They would like something with direct practical use. Accordingly, include practical information such as:
 - Case studies from customs (what to do with seized chemicals) showing how customs have handled specific examples under each MEA.
 - What are the measures that should be taken against a person who violates the regulations related to a specific MEA?
 - What are sanctions and punishment if counterfeit papers?
 - What can be consequences of violating this code?
 - Is it administrative or criminal punishment?
- The main issues should be in form of questions and answers.
- The guide needs an overview table of major provisions of each MEA.
- The concrete information given on the Montreal Protocol phase-out schedule is for developing countries only – it should have information for developed countries too. Provide a list of countries showing which schedules apply to which countries.
- The manual should include the article from national legal codes that deals with the specific violations what is the punishment that forms the violation of this or that article (i.e. the operative part for the customs officer).
- Should have sections produced by Secretariats and sections where countries could add local information. For example, national legislation should have provisions about what to do with seized substance.
- Translate it into Russian.
- Distribute the guide also to importers/exporters who are directly engaged in the movement of these substances.
- Guide should be placed on website.

Annex 1: Agenda

<u>TUESDAY 25 OCTOBER 2005</u>	
8.00 – 9.00	Registration of Participants
9.00 – 10.00	<p>OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE WORKSHOP</p> <p>WELCOME REMARKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Statement by Mr. Zaal Lomtadze, Deputy Minister</i> ▪ <i>Statement by Mr. Jim Curlin, Information Manager, UNEP DTIE</i> ▪ <i>Statement by Ms. Charlotte Salpin, Associate Legal Officer, UNEP DEC</i> <p>VOTE OF THANKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Mr. Mikheil Tushishvili, Head, National Ozone Unit, Georgia</i>
10.00 – 10.30	TEA / COFFEE BREAK
10:30 – 11.00	<p><u>INTRODUCTION TO THE GREEN CUSTOMS WORKSHOP</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to this Initiative: Why should customs care about Multilateral Environmental agreements? ▪ Introduction to the Green Customs Training Guide ▪ Objectives and Mechanics of the Workshop <i>by Jim Curlin, UNEP DTIE</i> ▪ Introduction of Participants (all Participants) and their expectations <i>(all participants)</i>
11.00 – 12.00	<p>INTRODUCTION TO COMPLIANCE WITH AND ENFORCEMENT OF MEAs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Global and Regional Perspectives ▪ Overview of the UNEP Guidelines on Compliance with and Enforcement of MEAs ▪ Introduction to the UNEP Draft manual on Compliance with and Enforcement of MEAs <i>By Charlotte Salpin, UNEP DEC</i>
12.00 – 13.00	<p>CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES IN COMPLIANCE WITH AND ENFORCEMENT OF MEAs: THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Experience of RILO Office in relation to trade in environmentally sensitive commodities <i>by Mr. Dmitriy Kazmin, RILO for CIS, Moscow Office</i> ▪ Discussion
13.00 -14.30	LUNCH BREAK

14.30 - 16.00	<p>DISCUSSION ON CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES IN COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT WITH MEAs: THE ROLE OF CUSTOMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cooperation between customs, environmental and law enforcement authorities of the same country <i>by Mr. Richard Emory, US Environmental Protection Agency</i> ▪ National experiences in collaboration between environmental and customs authorities and Regional Collaboration (<i>Roundtable</i>)
16.00 - 16.30	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
16.30-17.30	<p>MONTREAL PROTOCOL AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and facilitated discussion on the Montreal Protocol • Discussion on regional dimensions of the implementation of the Montreal Protocol (<i>National Ozone Officers</i>) <i>By Mr. Marin Kocov and Mr. Jim Curlin</i>

<u>WEDNESDAY 26 OCTOBER 2005</u>	
9.00 – 10.00	<p>CITES CONVENTION AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Facilitated Discussion
10.00 – 11.00	<p>ROTTERDAM CONVENTION AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS</p> <p>Presentation and Facilitated Discussion by <i>Richard Emory, US EPA</i></p>

11.00-11.30	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
11.30 – 12.30	BASEL CONVENTION AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation and Facilitated Discussion (by Ms. <i>Irina Hakobyan, Department of Hazardous Substances and Wastes Management, Armenia</i>)
12.30 – 13.00	COMBATING ILLEGAL TRADE IN PRACTICE: IDENTIFICATION OF SEIZED CYLINDERS OF OZONE-DEPLETING SUBSTANCES <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demonstration by <i>NOU of Georgia (Mr. Mikheil Tushishvili)</i> and <i>Mr. Sul Khan Suladze, Georgian Refrigeration Association</i>
13.00-14.30	LUNCH BREAK
14.30-16.00	THE ENFORCEMENT COMMUNITY FACED TO ILLEGAL TRADE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Case studies presented by <i>Mr. Ezra Clark, the Environmental Investigation Agency</i>
16.00-16.30	TEA/COFFEE BREAK
16.30- 17.30	STOCKHOLM CONVENTION AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentation and Facilitated Discussion by <i>Mr. Marin Kocov, Vice-President of the COP of the Stockholm Convention.</i>

THURSDAY 27 OCTOBER 2005

9.00 – 10.30	WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS (PROPOSED) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of Implementing Legislation, Regulations, and Standards, and Enforcement, facilitated by <i>Charlotte Salpin</i> ▪ Issues of transit, transshipment, Free Trade Zones. ▪ A link between environmental crime and organized crime?
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10.30 – 11.00	9 TEA / COFFEE BREAK
11.30– 13.00	PLENARY DISCUSSION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Presentations by rapporteurs of each of the Working groups ▪ Discussion
13.30 – 14.30	LUNCH BREAK
14.30 – 16.00	INTRODUCTION TO THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction by participants (on their awareness of the CWC) ▪ Overview of the Chemical Weapons Convention, <i>by Mr. Kenneth Penman, OPCW Technical Secretariat.</i> ▪ Introduction to legal issues
16.00 – 16.30	TEA / COFFEE BREAK
16.30 – 17.30	THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION (CONTINUED) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Introduction to legal issues ▪ Chemicals to be monitored

<u>FRIDAY 28 OCTOBER 2005</u>	
9.00 – 11.00	THE CHEMICAL WEAPONS CONVENTION AND CUSTOMS OFFICERS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The task of customs officers to implement the CWC ▪ Tools for customs officers to implement the convention
11.00 – 11.30	10 TEA / COFFEE BREAK
11.30 – 13.00	CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Regional Dimensions ▪ Linkages between International Treaty implementation
13.00 - 14.30	LUNCH
14.30 - 15.15	FEEDBACK ON THE GREEN CUSTOMS TRAINING MATERIALS AND APPROACH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Discussion facilitated by UNEP
15.15 – 16.00	CLOSING OF THE WORKSHOP <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Summary of the Workshop and closing remarks

ANNEX 2: LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

No.	Name/Position	Address	Tel/Fax/Email
Georgian Participants			
1	Mr. Zaal Lomtadze Deputy Minister	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	
2	Ms. Nino Tkhlava Head of the Air Protection Office	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	geoairdept@caucasus.net
3	Mr. Mikheil Tushishvili Head of the National Ozone Unit	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	geoairdept@caucasus.net
4	Mr. Revaz Erukidze Head of the Department of International Relations and Project Preparations	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	renukidze@yahoo.com +995 32 46-50-16
5	Mr. Alverd Chankseliani Head of the Department of Waste and Chemical Substances Management (Rotterdam Convention issues)	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	conven-pops@internet.ge +995 32 75-21-28
6	Mr. Givi Kalandadze Deputy Head of the Department of Waste and Chemical Substances Management (POPs and Basel issues)	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	basel-pops@internet.ge +995 32 75-21-30
7	Mr. Kakha Gurasashvili Head of the Legal Department	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	
8	Ms. Ann Rukhadze Head of Habitats Conservation Division of Biodiversity Protection Service (CITES issues)	The Ministry of Environment of Georgia 6, Gulua str., Tbilisi, Georgia	anarukhadze@yahoo.com
9	Mr. Badri Mechekhia Senior Inspector	The Customs Department of Georgia 4 Abzianidze str., Tbilisi, Georgia	+995 99 93-07-12
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